

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE P.

(51) International Patent Classification 6:

C07C 317/14, 311/16, C07D 213/32,  
C07C 317/22, 323/65, 317/44, 311/29,  
323/67, C07D 213/34, 213/61, 213/71,  
A61K 31/10, 31/18, 31/44

A1

(11) International P.

(43) International Publication Treaty (PCT)

WO 95/30652

Number 1995 (16.11.95)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US95/04789

(22) International Filing Date:

26 April 1995 (26.04.95)

(30) Priority Data:

08/237,739 4 May 1994 (04.05.94)

(60) Parent Application or Grant  
(63) Related by Continuation  
US  
Filed on

08/237,739 (CON)  
4 May 1995 (04.05.95)

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): G.D. SEARLE  
& CO. [US/US]; Corporate Patent Dept., P.O. Box 5110,  
Chicago, IL 60680-5110 (US).

(72) Inventors; and  
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): HUANG, Horng-Chih  
[—/US]; 15481 Duxbury Way, Chesterfield, MO 63017 (US).  
REITZ, David, R. [US/US]; 14814 Pleasant Ridge Court,  
Chesterfield, MO 63017 (US).

US

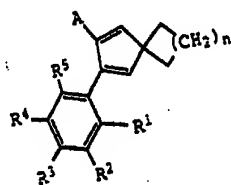
(74) Agents: BULOCK, Joseph,  
Corporate Patent Dept., P.O.  
5110 (US).

Searle & Co.,  
Chicago, IL 60680-

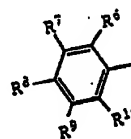
(81) Designated States: AM, AT, AU, BB, B,  
CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR,  
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, LY, MC, NL,  
MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SI, SK, SL,  
TM, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, European patent (EP),  
CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL,  
SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,  
MR, NE, SN, TD, TG), ARIPO patent (KE, MW, SD,  
UG).

Published  
With international search report.

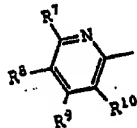
(54) Title: SUBSTITUTED SPIRODIENES FOR THE TREATMENT OF INFLAMMATION



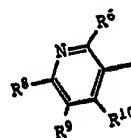
(I)



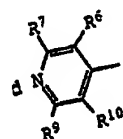
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

(57) Abstract

A class of substituted spirodienes of formula (I), wherein A is selected from (a), (b), (c) and (d); wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, alkylsulphonyl, haloalkylsulphonyl and sulphamyl; and wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; is described which selectively inhibit cyclooxygenase II and are useful in treating inflammation and inflammation-related disorders.

**FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY**

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AT	Austria	GB	United Kingdom	MR	Mauritania
AU	Australia	GE	Georgia	MW	Malawi
BB	Barbados	GN	Guinea	NE	Niger
BE	Belgium	GR	Greece	NL	Netherlands
BF	Burkina Faso	HU	Hungary	NO	Norway
BG	Bulgaria	IE	Ireland	NZ	New Zealand
BJ	Benin	IT	Italy	PL	Poland
BR	Brazil	JP	Japan	PT	Portugal
BY	Belarus	KE	Kenya	RO	Romania
CA	Canada	KG	Kyrgyzstan	RU	Russian Federation
CF	Central African Republic	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	SD	Sudan
CG	Congo	KR	Republic of Korea	SE	Sweden
CH	Switzerland	KZ	Kazakhstan	SI	Slovenia
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	LI	Liechtenstein	SK	Slovakia
CM	Cameroon	LK	Sri Lanka	SN	Senegal
CN	China	LU	Luxembourg	TD	Chad
CS	Czechoslovakia	LV	Latvia	TG	Togo
CZ	Czech Republic	MC	Monaco	TJ	Tajikistan
DE	Germany	MD	Republic of Moldova	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
DK	Denmark	MG	Madagascar	UA	Ukraine
ES	Spain	ML	Mali	US	United States of America
FI	Finland	MN	Mongolia	UZ	Uzbekistan
FR	France			VN	Viet Nam
GA	Gabon				

**SUBSTITUTED SPIRODIENES F R THE  
TREATMENT OF INFLAMMATION**

**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

5                   This invention is in the field of  
antiinflammatory pharmaceutical agents and specifically  
relates to compounds, compositions and methods for  
treating inflammation and inflammation-associated  
10 disorders, such as arthritis.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

15                   Prostaglandins play a major role in the  
inflammation process and the inhibition of prostaglandin  
production, especially production of PGG<sub>2</sub>, PGH<sub>2</sub> and PGE<sub>2</sub>,  
has been a common target of antiinflammatory drug  
discovery. However, common non-steroidal antiinflammatory  
drugs (NSAIDs) that are active in reducing the  
20 prostaglandin-induced pain and swelling associated with  
the inflammation process are also active in affecting  
other prostaglandin-regulated processes not associated  
with the inflammation process. Thus, use of high doses of  
most common NSAIDs can produce severe side effects,  
25 including life threatening ulcers, that limit their  
therapeutic potential. An alternative to NSAIDs is the  
use of corticosteroids, which have even more drastic side  
effects, especially when long term therapy is involved.

30                   Previous NSAIDs have been found to prevent the  
production of prostaglandins by inhibiting enzymes in the  
human arachidonic acid/prostaglandin pathway, including  
the enzyme cyclooxygenase (COX). Recently, the sequence  
of a previously unknown enzyme in the human arachidonic  
acid/prostaglandin pathway has been reported by T. Hla  
35 and K. Nielson, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci, USA*, 89, 7384  
(1992) and named "cyclooxygenase II (COX II)" or  
"prostaglandin G/H synthase II." The discovery of an

inducible enzyme associated with inflammation provides a viable target of inhibition which more effectively reduces inflammation and produces fewer and less drastic side effects. Cyclooxygenase II is inducible by cytokines or endotoxins and such induction is inhibited by glucocorticoids (J. Masferrer, et al, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci, USA*, 89, 3917 (1992)). The 6-methoxy-2-naphthylacetic acid metabolite of nabumetone has been found by E. Meade et al to selectively inhibit the COX II enzyme (*J. Biol. Chem.*, 268, 6610 (1993)). In addition, Futaki et al (*Prostaglandins*, 47, 55 (1994)) have reported that N-(2-cyclohexyloxy-4-nitrophenyl)methanesulfonamide inhibits cyclooxygenase II and lacks gastric side effects.

The substituted spiro compounds disclosed herein selectively inhibit cyclooxygenase II over cyclooxygenase I and relieve the effects of inflammation. These compounds, in addition, do not display substantial inhibition of cyclooxygenase I and produce a reduced amount of side effects.

Substituted spiro compounds are described in a copending application, Serial No. 08/194,762.

U.S. Patent No. 4,946,993 to Cortes, describes the use of aryl substituted cyclopentadienes to form N-phosphonomethylglycine.

Allen et al [*J. Org. Chem.*, 11, 268 (1946)] describe the formation of 3,4-diphenylcyclopentadiene.

Zimmerman and Pinock [*J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 95, 3246 (1973)] describe the synthesis of 5,5-dimethyl-2,3-diphenylcyclopentadiene from diacetylenic compounds.

Hirao et al [*J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, 300 (1984)] describe the synthesis of norbornadienes from

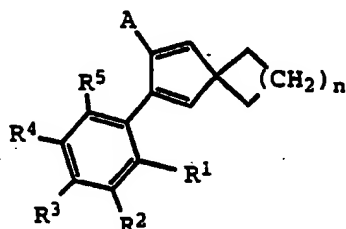
substituted cyclopentadienes and acetylenes.  
Specifically, 1,1'-(4,4-dimethyl-2,5-cyclopentadien-1,2-diyl)bis[4-methoxybenzene] is described.

5 Hamer and Stubbs [*J. Chem. Soc., D*, 1013 (1970)] describe the formation of spiro[2,4]hepta-4,6-dienes through the photoisomerization of bicyclo[3,1,0]hex-2-enes. Specifically, 1,5,6-triphenyl-spiro[2,4]hepta-4,6-diene is described.

10

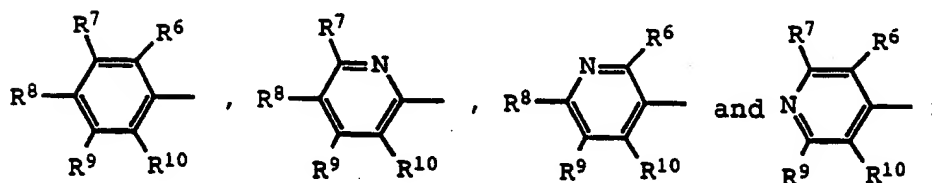
### DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

A class of substituted spiro compounds useful in treating inflammation-related disorders is defined by  
15 Formula I:



I

20 wherein A is selected from



wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; and  
25 wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

30

Compounds of Formula I would be useful for, but not limited to, the treatment of inflammation in a

subject, and for treatment of other inflammation-associated disorders, such as, as an analgesic in the treatment of pain and headaches, or as an antipyretic for the treatment of fever. For example, compounds of Formula I would be useful to treat arthritis, including but not limited to rheumatoid arthritis, spondyloarthropathies, gouty arthritis, osteoarthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus and juvenile arthritis. Such compounds of Formula I would be useful in the treatment of asthma, bronchitis, menstrual cramps, tendinitis, bursitis, and skin related conditions such as psoriasis, eczema, burns and dermatitis. Compounds of Formula I also would be useful to treat gastrointestinal conditions such as inflammatory bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease, gastritis, irritable bowel syndrome and ulcerative colitis and for the prevention of colorectal cancer. Compounds of Formula I would be useful in treating inflammation in such diseases as vascular diseases, migraine headaches, periarteritis nodosa, thyroiditis, aplastic anemia, Hodgkin's disease, sclerodoma, rheumatic fever, type I diabetes, myasthenia gravis, sarcoidosis, nephrotic syndrome, Behcet's syndrome, polymyositis, gingivitis, hypersensitivity, conjunctivitis, swelling occurring after injury, myocardial ischemia, and the like. The compounds are useful as anti-inflammatory agents, such as for the treatment of arthritis, with the additional benefit of having significantly less harmful side effects.

30           The present invention also includes compounds which selectively inhibit cyclooxygenase II over cyclooxygenase I and do not significantly inhibit one or more other arachidonic pathway steps, such as thromboxane B<sub>2</sub> (TXB<sub>2</sub>) production. Importantly, thromboxanes cause  
35 blood platelet aggregation and have vasoconstriction properties. Thus a lack of effect in the regulation of non-inflammation related thromboxane production is

further evidence of the beneficial selectivity of the present compounds.

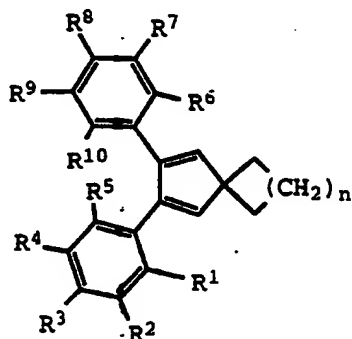
Preferably, the compounds have a cyclooxygenase II IC<sub>50</sub> less than about 0.1  $\mu$ M, and also have a selectivity ratio of cyclooxygenase II inhibition over cyclooxygenase I inhibition of at least 50, and more preferably of at least 100. Even more preferably, the compounds have a cyclooxygenase I IC<sub>50</sub> of greater than about 0.5  $\mu$ M, and more preferably of greater than 5  $\mu$ M. Such preferred selectivity may indicate an ability to reduce the incidence of common NSAID-induced side effects, such as ulcers.

A preferred class of compounds consists of those compounds of Formula I wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkylthio, cyano, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

A class of compounds of particular interest consists of those compounds of Formula I wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hydroxyl, mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, cyano, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl, methylsulfonyl, fluoromethylsulfonyl,

difluoromethylsulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

- 5                    Within Formula I there is a subclass of compounds of high interest represented by Formula II:



II

- 10                    wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; and  
15                    wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

- A preferred class of compounds consists of those compounds of Formula II wherein n is a number  
20                    selected from 0, 1 and 2; wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkylthio, cyano, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower alkoxy, hydroxyl, mercapto, lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, lower alkylsulfonyl,  
25                    lower haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

- A class of compounds of particular interest consists of those compounds of Formula II wherein each  
30                    of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from



hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hydroxyl, mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, cyano, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl, methylsulfonyl, fluoromethylsulfonyl, difluoromethylsulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

15

A family of specific compounds of particular interest within Formula II consists of compounds and pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof as follows:

- 20 5-phenyl-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
25 5-(4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-iodophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
30 5-(4-methylphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-ethylphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
35 5-(4-methylthiophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;

- 5-(4-cyanophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5 5-(4-hydroxymethylphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(4-methoxymethylphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 10 5-(4-mercaptophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 4-(6-phenylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl)  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 15 4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-bromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 20 4-[6-(4-iodophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 25 4-[6-(4-ethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 30 4-[6-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 35 4-[6-(4-hydroxymethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-methoxymethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-

- yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(4-hydroxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(4-mercaptophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
5 benzenesulfonamide;  
6-phenyl-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-  
5,7-diene;  
6-(4-fluorophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
10 6-(4-chlorophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-bromophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-iodophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
15 spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-methylphenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-ethylphenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
20 6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-methylthiophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-cyanophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
25 spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-hydroxymethylphenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
30 6-(4-methoxymethylphenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-mercaptophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
35 spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
4-(7-phenylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl)  
benzenesulfonamide;

- 4-[7-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 4-[7-(4-bromophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-iodophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 10 4-[7-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-ethylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 15 4-[7-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 20 4-[7-(4-hydroxymethylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-methoxymethylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 25 4-[7-(4-hydroxyphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-mercaptophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 2-phenyl-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-  
1,3-diene;
- 30 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;
- 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;
- 35 2-(4-bromophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;
- 2-(4-iodophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]

- spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
2-(4-methylphenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
2-(4-ethylphenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
5 spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
2-(4-methylthiophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
10 2-(4-cyanophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
2-(4-hydroxymethylphenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
15 phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
2-(4-methoxymethylphenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
20 2-(4-mercaptophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;  
4-(3-phenylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl)  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
25 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-bromophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
30 4-[3-(4-iodophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-ethylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
35 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;

- 4-[3-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 4-[3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(4-hydroxymethylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(4-methoxymethylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
10 benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(4-mercaptophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 15 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methylphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 20 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 25 5-(3-methyl-4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-trifluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 30 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 35 5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;

- phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3-bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
5 phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-methoxy-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl)-6-[4-  
(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(2,3,5,6-tetrafluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-6-[4-  
(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
10 5-(3,5-difluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3,5-dibromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
15 phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(2,3,4-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(2,3,4-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
20 5-(2,3,4-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(2,4,5-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(2,4,5-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
25 phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(2,4,5-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
30 5-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-[3,4-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
35 spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;

- 5-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,4-dibromophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5 5-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-chloro-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(4-chloro-3-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
10 phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(4-chloro-3-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methylphenyl)-6-[4-  
(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
15 diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-  
(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-  
20 (fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-  
(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
diene;
- 25 5-(3-methyl-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-  
(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-  
(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
30 diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-  
(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-trifluorophenyl)-6-[4-  
35 (fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-



- (fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5- (3-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5 5- (3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 10 5- (3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5- (3-bromo-4-methoxyphenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 15 5- (2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorophenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5- (4-methoxy-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 20 5- (2,3,5,6-tetrafluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5- (3,5-difluoro-4-methoxyphenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 25 5- (3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 30 5- (3,5-dibromo-4-methoxyphenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5- (2,3,4-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 35 5- (2,3,4-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl) -6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-

- diene;
- 5-(2,3,4-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5 5-(2,4,5-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(2,4,5-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 10 5-(2,4,5-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 15 5-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-[3,4-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 20 5-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 25 5-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,4-dibromophenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 30 5-(3-chloro-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(4-chloro-3-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 35 5-(4-chloro-3-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(fluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methylphenyl)-6-[4-

- (difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 10 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 15 5-(3-methyl-4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 20 5-(3-methyl-4-trifluorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 25 5-(3-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 30 5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 35 5-(3-bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-

- diene;
- 5-(2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5 5-(4-methoxy-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(2,3,5,6-tetrafluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 10 5-(3,5-difluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 15 5-(3,5-dibromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 20 5-(2,3,4-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(2,3,4-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 25 5-(2,3,4-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(2,4,5-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 30 5-(2,4,5-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 35 5-(2,4,5-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;

- 5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5 5-[3,4-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 10 5-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 15 5-(3,4-dibromophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 20 5-(3-chloro-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(4-chloro-3-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 25 5-(4-chloro-3-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(difluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methylphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 30 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 35 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;

- diene;
- 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5 5-(3-methyl-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 10 5-(3-methyl-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-methyl-4-trifluorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 15 5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 20 5-(3-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 25 5-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 30 5-(2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 35 5-(4-methoxy-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;

- 5-(2,3,5,6-tetrafluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5 5-(3,5-difluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 10 5-(3,5-dibromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(2,3,4-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 15 5-(2,3,4-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(2,3,4-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 20 5-(2,4,5-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(2,4,5-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 25 5-(2,4,5-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 30 5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 35 5-[3,4-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;

- 5-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5 5-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3,4-dibromophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 10 5-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(3-chloro-4-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 15 5-(4-chloro-3-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 5-(4-chloro-3-bromophenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 20 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 25 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-bromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 30 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 35 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-bromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-



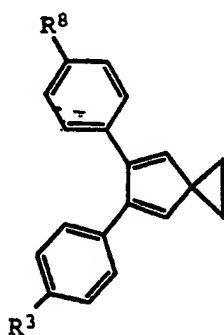
- 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
5 : 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3-bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
10 4-[6-(2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(4-methoxy-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl)spiro  
: [2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,3,5,6-tetrafluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro  
15 : [2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,5-difluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
20 4-[6-(3,5-dibromo-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,3,4-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,3,4-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
25 : 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,3,4-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,4,5-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
30 4-[6-(2,4,5-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,4,5-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
35 : 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

- 4-[6-[3,4-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 4-[6-(3,4-difluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3,4-dibromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
10 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-chloro-4-bromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 15 4-[6-(4-chloro-3-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-chloro-3-bromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
20 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-bromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 25 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
30 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-bromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 35 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-

- 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
5 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3-bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
10 4-[6-(4-methoxy-2,3,5,6-  
tetrafluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,3,5,6-tetrafluoro-4-  
trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
15 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,5-difluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
20 4-[6-(3,5-dibromo-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,3,4-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,3,4-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
25 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,3,4-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,4,5-trifluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
30 4-[6-(2,4,5-trichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2,4,5-tribromo-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
35 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

- 4-[6-[3,4-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
5 4-[6-(3,4-difluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3,4-dibromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
10 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(3-chloro-4-bromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
15 4-[6-(4-chloro-3-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide; and  
4-[6-(4-chloro-3-bromophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide.

- 20 Within Formula I there is a second subclass of  
compounds of high interest represented by Formula III:



III

- 25 wherein R<sup>3</sup> is selected from alkylsulfonyl and  
sulfamyl; and wherein R<sup>8</sup> is selected from hydrido,  
halo, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl,  
haloalkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl and  
mercapto; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt  
30 thereof.

A class of compounds of particular interest consists of those compounds of Formula III wherein R<sup>3</sup> is methylsulfonyl or sulfamyl; and wherein R<sup>8</sup> is  
 5 selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hydroxyl, mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, cyano, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl,  
 10 dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl and ethoxymethyl; or a  
 15 pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

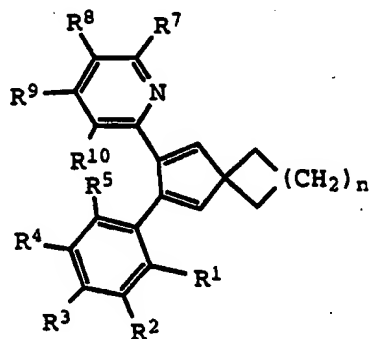
A family of specific compounds of particular interest within Formula III consists of compounds and pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof as follows:

20

5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
 spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene; and  
 4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide.

25

Within Formula I there is a third subclass of compounds of high interest represented by Formula IV:



IV

wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3; and

wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

10 A preferred class of compounds consists of those compounds of Formula IV wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1 and 2; wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkylthio, cyano, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

20

A class of compounds of particular interest consists of those compounds of Formula IV wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hydroxyl, mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, cyano, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl, methylsulfonyl, fluoromethylsulfonyl, difluoromethylsulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

A family of specific compounds of particular interest within Formula IV consists of compounds and pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof as follows:

- 5 .  
: 2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-  
: 5-yl]pyridine;  
: 5-fluoro-2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
: [2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
10 : 5-chloro-2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
: [2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
: 5-methyl-2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
: [2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
: 5-methoxy-2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
15 : [2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
: 5-methylthio-2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
: [2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
: 5-cyano-2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
: [2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
20 : 5-trifluoromethyl-2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
: phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
: 4-[6-(pyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
: benzenesulfonamide;  
: 4-[6-(5-fluoropyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
25 : benzenesulfonamide;  
: 4-[6-(5-chloropyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
: benzenesulfonamide;  
: 4-[6-(5-methylpyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
: benzenesulfonamide;  
30 : 4-[6-(5-methoxypyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5  
: yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
: 4-[6-(5-methylthiopyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-  
: 5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
: 4-[6-(5-cyanopyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
35 : benzenesulfonamide;  
: 4-[6-(5-trifluoromethylpyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
: 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

- 2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
5-fluoro-2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
5 5-chloro-2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
5-methyl-2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
5-methoxy-2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
10 5-methylthio-2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
5-cyano-2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
15 5-trifluoromethyl-2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
4-[7-(pyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-(5-fluoropyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
20 4-[7-(5-chloropyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-(5-methylpyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
25 4-[7-(5-methoxypyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-(5-methylthiopyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-(5-cyanopyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
30 4-[7-(5-trifluoromethylpyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
35 5-fluoro-2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
5-chloro-2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;



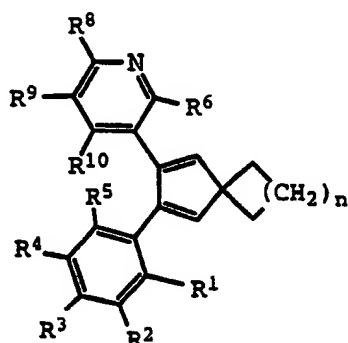
- nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
5-methyl-2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]  
nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
5-methoxy-2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]  
5 nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
5-methylthio-2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
5-cyano-2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]  
nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
10 5-trifluoromethyl-2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
4-[3-(pyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(5-fluoropyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
15 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(5-chloropyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(5-methylpyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
20 4-[3-(5-methoxypyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(5-methylthiopyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(5-cyanopyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
25 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(5-trifluoromethylpyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-  
dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
2-(6-phenylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl)-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
30 2-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
2-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
2-[6-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-  
35 (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
2-[6-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;

- 2-[6-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-  
5-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[6-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5 2-[6-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
yl]-5-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-(6-phenylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl)-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;
- 10 2-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-[6-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;
- 15 2-[6-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-[6-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-  
5-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-[6-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;
- 20 2-[6-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
yl]-5-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-(7-phenylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl)-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 25 2-[7-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[7-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[7-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 30 2-[7-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[7-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 35 2-[7-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[7-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-

- yl]-5-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
2-(7-phenylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl)-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
2-[7-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
5 pyridinesulfonamide;  
2-[7-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
2-[7-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
10 2-[7-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
2-[7-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
2-[7-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-  
15 pyridinesulfonamide;  
2-[7-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-  
yl]-5-pyridinesulfonamide;  
2-(3-phenylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl)-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
20 2-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
2-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
2-[3-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-  
25 (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
2-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
2-[3-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
30 2-[3-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
2-[3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-  
yl]-5-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
2-(3-phenylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl)-5-  
35 pyridinesulfonamide;  
2-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-  
pyridinesulfonamide;

- 2-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-pyridinesulfonamide;  
 2-[3-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-pyridinesulfonamide;  
 5 2-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-pyridinesulfonamide;  
 2-[3-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-pyridinesulfonamide; and  
 2-[3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-pyridinesulfonamide.

Within Formula I there is a fourth subclass of compounds of high interest represented by Formula V:



V

wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3; and

- wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

- A preferred class of compounds consists of those compounds of Formula V wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1 and 2; wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, low r alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower

alkylthio, cyano, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy,  
lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl,  
mercapto, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower haloalkylsulfonyl  
and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt  
5 thereof.

A class of compounds of particular interest  
consists of those compounds of Formula V wherein each  
of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently  
10 selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo,  
methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl,  
isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hydroxyl,  
mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, cyano,  
trifluoromethoxy, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl,  
15 trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl,  
trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl,  
difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl,  
difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl,  
dichloropropyl, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl,  
20 ethoxymethyl, methylsulfonyl, fluoromethylsulfonyl,  
difluoromethylsulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl and  
sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt  
thereof.

25 A family of specific compounds of particular  
interest within Formula V consists of compounds and  
pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof as follows:

5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-  
30 5-yl]pyridine;  
2-fluoro-5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]  
hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
2-chloro-5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]  
hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
35 2-methyl-5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]  
hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
2-methoxy-5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]  
hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;

- 2-methylthio-5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
2-cyano-5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]  
hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
5 2-trifluoromethyl-5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
4-[6-(pyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2-fluoropyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
10 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2-chloropyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2-methylpyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
15 4-[6-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2-methylthiopyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-  
5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2-cyanopyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
20 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2-trifluoromethylpyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-  
yl]pyridine;  
25 2-fluoro-5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
2-chloro-5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
2-methyl-5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
30 spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
2-methoxy-5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
2-methylthio-5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
35 2-cyano-5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
2-trifluoromethyl-5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]

- spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
4-[7-(pyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-(2-fluoropyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
5 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-(2-chloropyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-(2-methylpyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
10 4-[7-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-(2-methylthiopyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-(2-cyanopyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
15 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-(2-trifluoromethylpyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-  
dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-  
yl]pyridine;  
20 2-fluoro-5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
2-chloro-5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
2-methyl-5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
25 spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
2-methoxy-5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
2-methylthio-5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
30 2-trifluoromethyl-5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;  
4-[3-(pyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(2-fluoropyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
35 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(2-chloropyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;

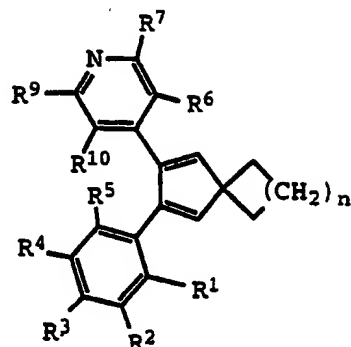
- 4-[3-(2-methylpyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 4-[3-(2-methylthiopyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(2-cyanopyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(2-trifluoromethylpyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-  
10 dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 5-(6-phenylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl)-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 15 5-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[6-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[6-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-  
20 (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[6-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-  
2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[6-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 25 5-[6-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-(6-phenylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl)-2-  
pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-  
30 pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-  
pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[6-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-  
pyridinesulfonamide;
- 35 5-[6-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-  
pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[6-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-



- 2-pyridinesulfonamide;  
5-[6-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
5-[6-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
5 yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;  
5-(7-phenylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl)-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
5-[7-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
10 5-[7-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
5-[7-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
5-[7-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
15 (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
5-[7-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
5-[7-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
20 5-[7-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-  
yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;  
5-(7-phenylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl)-2-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
5-[7-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
25 pyridinesulfonamide;  
5-[7-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
5-[7-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
30 5-[7-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
5-[7-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-  
pyridinesulfonamide;  
5-[7-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-  
35 yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;  
5-(3-phenylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl)-2-  
(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;

- 5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5 5-[3-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[3-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 10 5-[3-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 15 5-(3-phenylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl)-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 20 5-[3-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 25 5-[3-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[3-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide; and
- 5-[3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide.
- 30

Within Formula I there is a fifth subclass of compounds of high interest represented by Formula VI:



VI

5

wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3; and

wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

15

A preferred class of compounds consists of those compounds of Formula VI wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1 and 2; wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkylthio, cyano, hydroxyl, mercapto, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower alkoxy, lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

25

A class of compounds of particular interest consists of those compounds of Formula VI wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, methylthio,

30

ethylthio, cyano, hydroxyl, mercapto, trifluoromethoxy, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl,  
5 difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl, methylsulfonyl, fluoromethylsulfonyl, difluoromethylsulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl and  
10 sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

A family of specific compounds of particular interest within Formula VI consists of compounds and  
15 pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof as follows:

4-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
4-[6-(4-pyridinyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
20 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
4-[7-(4-pyridinyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
25 4-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine; and  
4-[3-(4-pyridinyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide.

30 Where the term "alkyl" is used, either alone or within other terms such as "haloalkyl", "alkylsulfonyl", "alkoxyalkyl" and "hydroxyalkyl", embraces linear or branched radicals having one to about twenty carbon atoms or, preferably, one to about twelve carbon atoms. More  
35 preferred alkyl radicals are "lower alkyl" radicals having one to about ten carbon atoms. Most preferred are lower alkyl radicals having one to about six carbon

atoms. Examples of such radicals include methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, iso-amyl, hexyl and the like. The term "hydrido" denotes a single hydrogen atom (H). This

5 hydrido radical may be attached, for example, to an oxygen atom to form a hydroxyl radical or two hydrido radicals may be attached to a carbon atom to form a methylene ( $-\text{CH}_2-$ ) radical. The term "halo" means halogens such as fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine. The term

10 "haloalkyl" embraces radicals wherein any one or more of the alkyl carbon atoms is substituted with halo as defined above. Specifically embraced are monohaloalkyl, dihaloalkyl and polyhaloalkyl radicals. A monohaloalkyl radical, for one example, may have either an iodo, bromo,

15 chloro or fluoro atom within the radical. Dihalo and polyhaloalkyl radicals may have two or more of the same halo atoms or a combination of different halo radicals. The term "hydroxyalkyl" embraces linear or branched alkyl radicals having one to about twelve carbon atoms any one

20 of which may be substituted with one or more hydroxyl radicals. The terms "alkoxy" and "alkoxyalkyl" embrace linear or branched oxy-containing radicals each having alkyl portions of one to about twelve carbon atoms. More preferred alkoxy radicals are "lower alkoxy" radicals

25 having one to six carbon atoms. Examples of such radicals include methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy and tert-butoxy. The term "alkoxyalkyl" also embraces alkyl radicals having two or more alkoxy radicals attached to the alkyl radical, that is, to form monoalkoxyalkyl and

30 dialkoxyalkyl radicals. The "alkoxy" or "alkoxyalkyl" radicals may be further substituted with one or more halo atoms, such as fluoro, chloro or bromo, to provide haloalkoxy or haloalkoxyalkyl radicals. The term "alkylthio" embraces radicals containing a linear or

35 branched alkyl radical, of one to about twelve carbon atoms attached to a divalent sulfur atom, such as a methythio radical, ( $\text{CH}_3-\text{S}-$ ). The term "sulfonyl", whether

used alone or linked to other terms such as alkylsulfonyl, denotes respectively divalent radicals  $-SO_2-$ . "Alkylsulfonyl" embraces alkyl radicals attached to a sulfonyl radical, where alkyl is defined as above.

5 The "alkylsulfonyl" radicals may be further substituted with one or more halo atoms, such as fluoro, chloro or bromo, to provide haloalkylsulfonyl radicals. The terms "sulfamyl" or "sulfonamidyl" denotes a sulfonyl radical substituted with an amine radical, forming a sulfonamide

10  $(-SO_2NH_2)$ .

The present invention comprises a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I in

15 association with at least one pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier, adjuvant or diluent.

The present invention also comprises a method of treating inflammation or inflammation-associated

20 disorders in a subject, the method comprising administering to the subject having such inflammation or disorder a therapeutically-effective amount of a compound of Formula I.

25 Also included in the family of compounds of Formula I are isomeric forms including diastereoisomers, prodrugs and the pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof. The term "pharmaceutically-acceptable salts" embraces salts commonly used to form alkali metal salts and to form addition salts of free acids or free bases.

30 The nature of the salt is not critical, provided that it is pharmaceutically-acceptable. Suitable pharmaceutically-acceptable acid addition salts of compounds of Formula I may be prepared from an inorganic

35 acid or from an organic acid. Examples of such inorganic acids are hydrochloric, hydrobromic, hydroiodic, nitric, carbonic, sulfuric and phosphoric acid. Appropriate

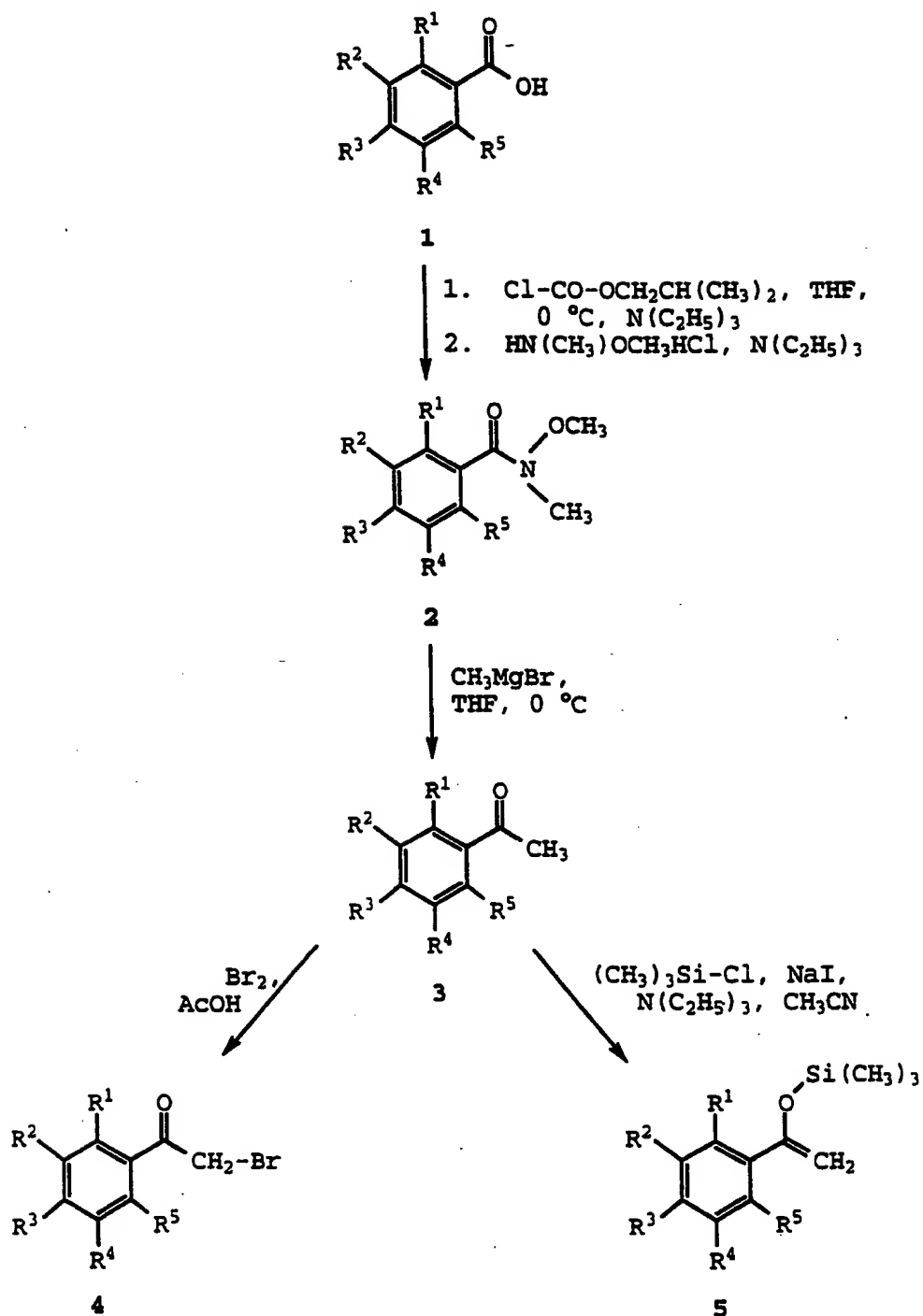
- organic acids may be selected from aliphatic, cycloaliphatic, aromatic, araliphatic, heterocyclic, carboxylic and sulfonic classes of organic acids, example of which are formic, acetic, propionic, succinic, glycolic, gluconic, lactic, malic, tartaric, citric, ascorbic, glucuronic, maleic, fumaric, pyruvic, aspartic, glutamic, benzoic, anthranilic, mesylic, salicylic, salicyclic, p-hydroxybenzoic, phenylacetic, mandelic, embonic (pamoic), methanesulfonic, ethanesulfonic, benzenesulfonic, pantothenic, 2-hydroxyethanesulfonic, toluenesulfonic, sulfanilic, cyclohexylaminosulfonic, stearic, algenic,  $\beta$ -hydroxybutyric, salicyclic, galactaric and galacturonic acid. Suitable pharmaceutically-acceptable base addition salts of compounds of Formula I include metallic salts made from aluminum, calcium, lithium, magnesium, potassium, sodium and zinc or organic salts made from N,N'-dibenzylethylenediamine, chlorprocaine, choline, diethanolamine, ethylenediamine, meglumine (N-methylglucamine) and procaine. All of these salts may be prepared by conventional means from the corresponding compound of Formula I by reacting, for example, the appropriate acid or base with the compound of Formula I. The term "prodrug" embraces compounds which are metabolized *in vivo* into compounds of the invention.

#### GENERAL SYNTHETIC PROCEDURES

- The compounds of the invention can be synthesized according to the following procedures of Schemes I-XX, wherein the  $R^1$ - $R^{10}$  substituents are as defined for Formula I, above, except where further noted.

46

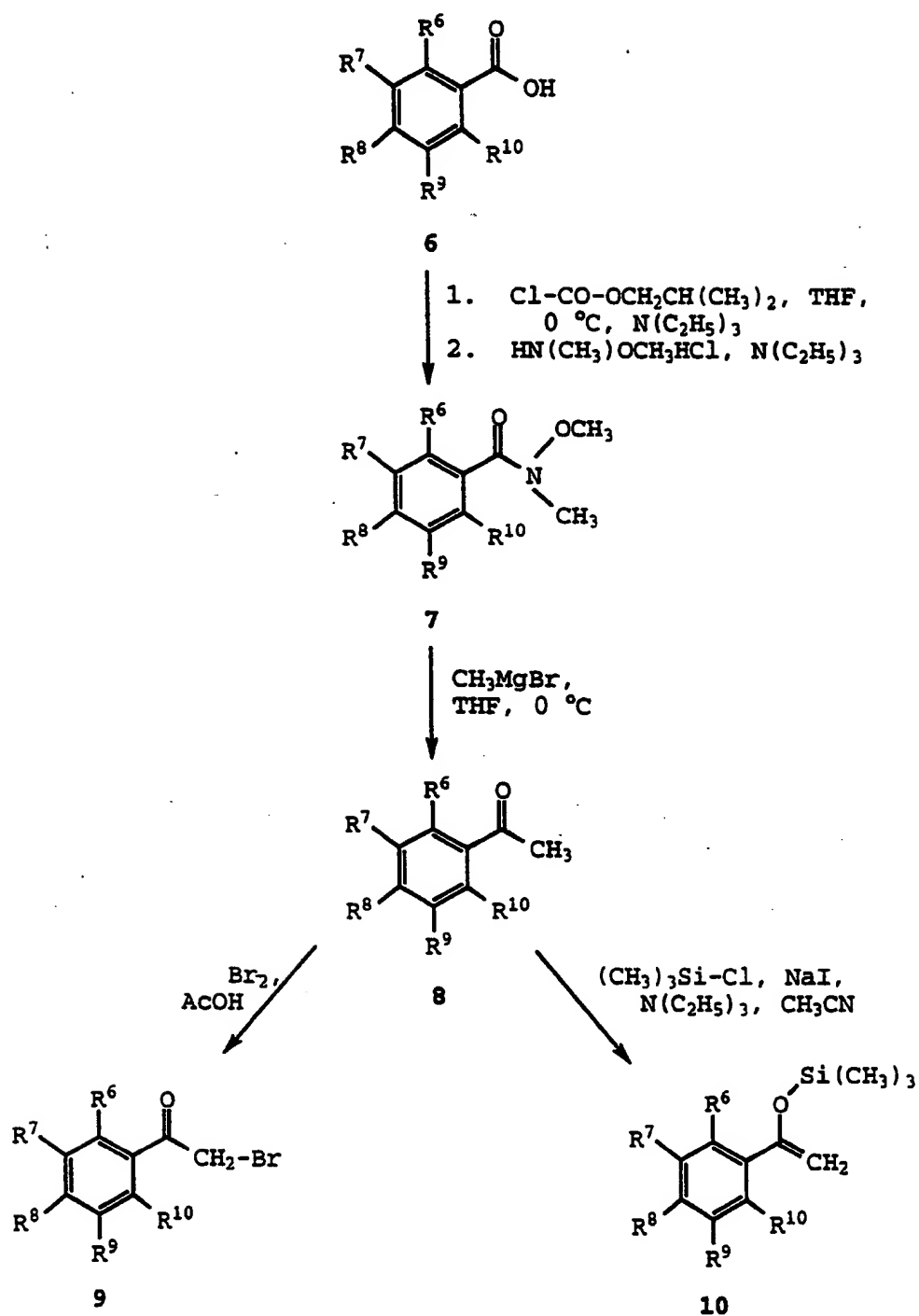
## Scheme I





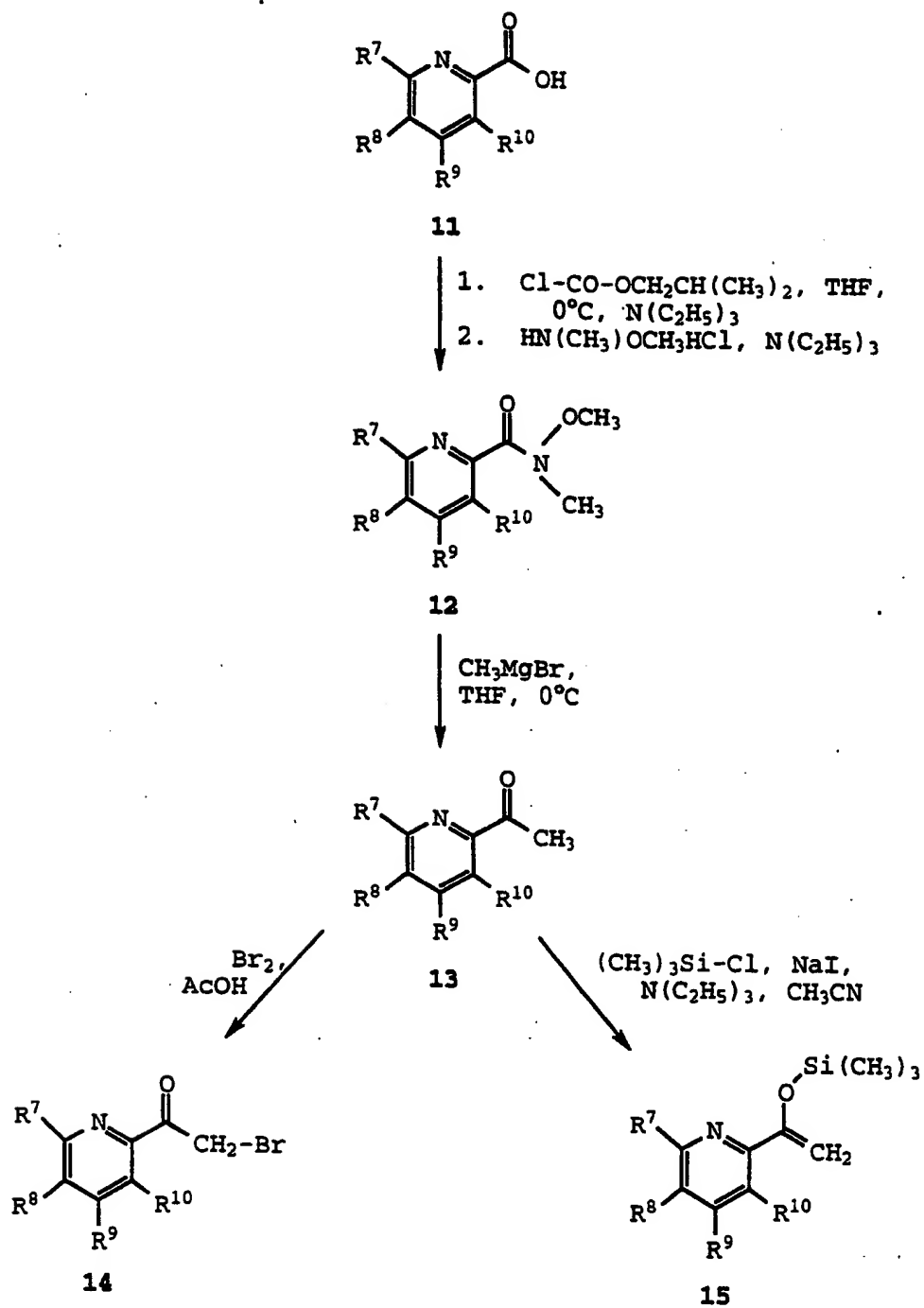
Synthetic Scheme I shows the three step procedure used to prepare the bromoacetophenones 4 and the phenyl silyl enol ethers 5 from commercially available benzoic acids 1. In step one, a THF solution at 0°C of the benzoic acids 1 and two equivalents of triethylamine are sequentially treated with isobutyl chloroformate and N-hydroxymethyl-N-methylamine hydrochloride to give the Weinreb amides 2 [see: S. Nahm and S. M. Weinreb, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 21, 3815 (1981)]. In step two, the amides 2 are reacted with methylmagnesium bromide to give the corresponding acetophenones 3. In step three, the acetophenones 3 are either treated with bromine in acetic acid to give the corresponding bromoacetophenones 4 or chlorotrimethylsilane in acetonitrile in the presence of triethylamine and sodium iodide to give the corresponding phenyl silyl enol ethers 5.

## Scheme II



Synthetic Scheme II shows the three step procedure used to prepare the bromoacetophenones 9 and the phenyl silyl enol ethers 10 from commercially available benzoic acids 6. In step one, a THF solution at 0°C of the  
5 benzoic acids 6 and two equivalents of triethylamine are sequentially treated with isobutyl chloroformate and N-hydroxymethyl-N-methylamine hydrochloride to give the Weinreb amides 7. In step two, the amides 7 are reacted with methylmagnesium bromide to give the corresponding  
10 acetophenones 8. In step three, the acetophenones 8 are either treated with bromine in acetic acid to give the corresponding bromoacetophenones 9 or chlorotrimethylsilane in acetonitrile in the presence of triethylamine and sodium iodide to give the corresponding phenyl silyl enol ethers  
15 10.

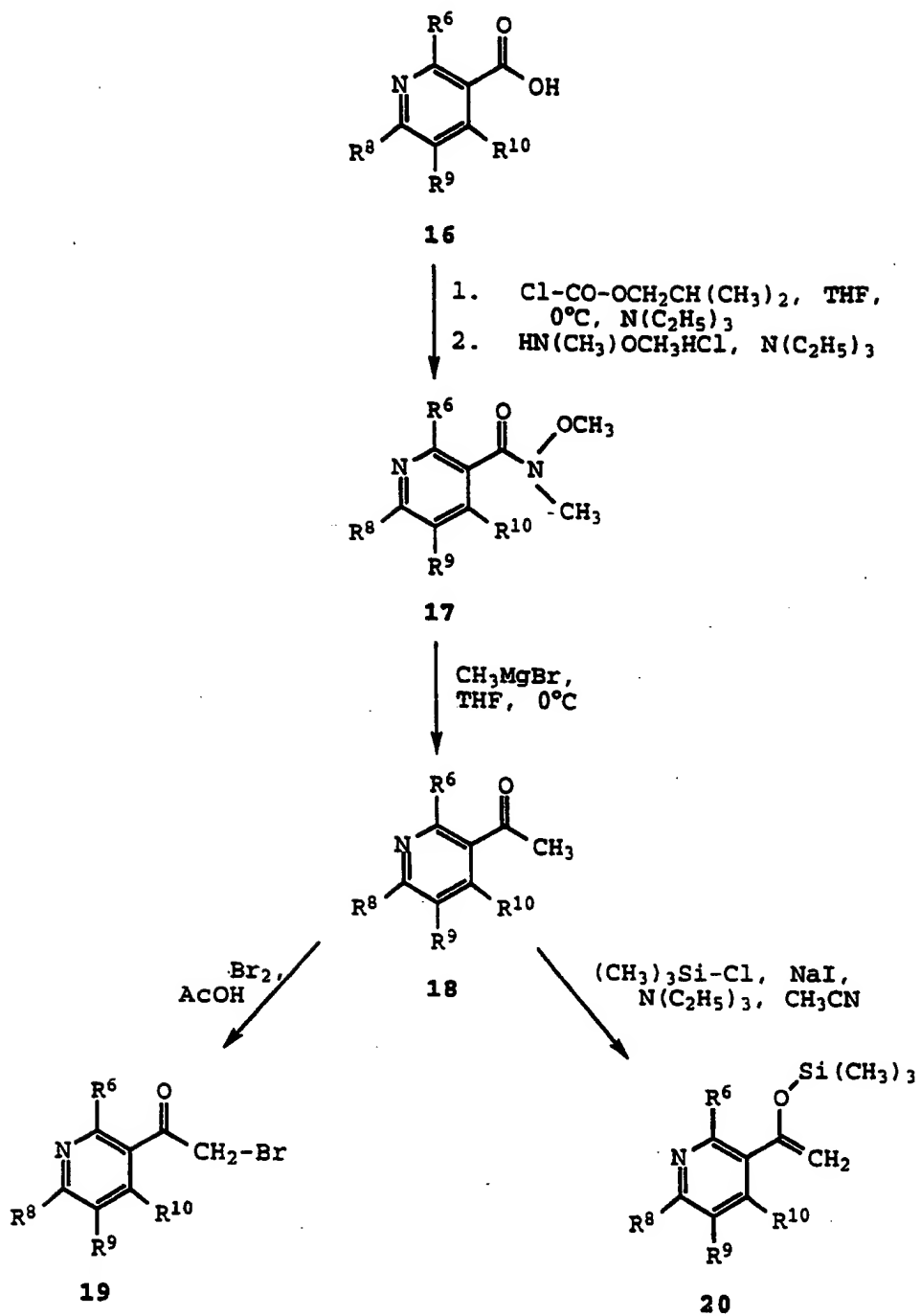
## Scheme III



Synthetic Scheme III shows the three step procedure used to prepare the 2-(bromoacetyl)pyridines 14 and the 2-pyridinyl silyl enol ethers 15 from commercially available picolinic acids 11. In step one, a THF solution at 0°C of the picolinic acids 11 and two equivalents of triethylamine are sequentially treated with isobutyl chloroformate and N-hydroxymethyl-N-methylamine hydrochloride to give the Weinreb amides 12. In step two, the amides 12 are reacted with methylmagnesium bromide to give the corresponding 2-acetylpyridines 13. In step three, the 2-acetylpyridines 13 are either treated with bromine in acetic acid to give the corresponding 2-(bromoacetyl)pyridines 14 or chlorotrimethylsilane in acetonitrile in the presence of triethylamine and sodium iodide to give the corresponding 2-pyridinyl silyl enol ethers 15.

52

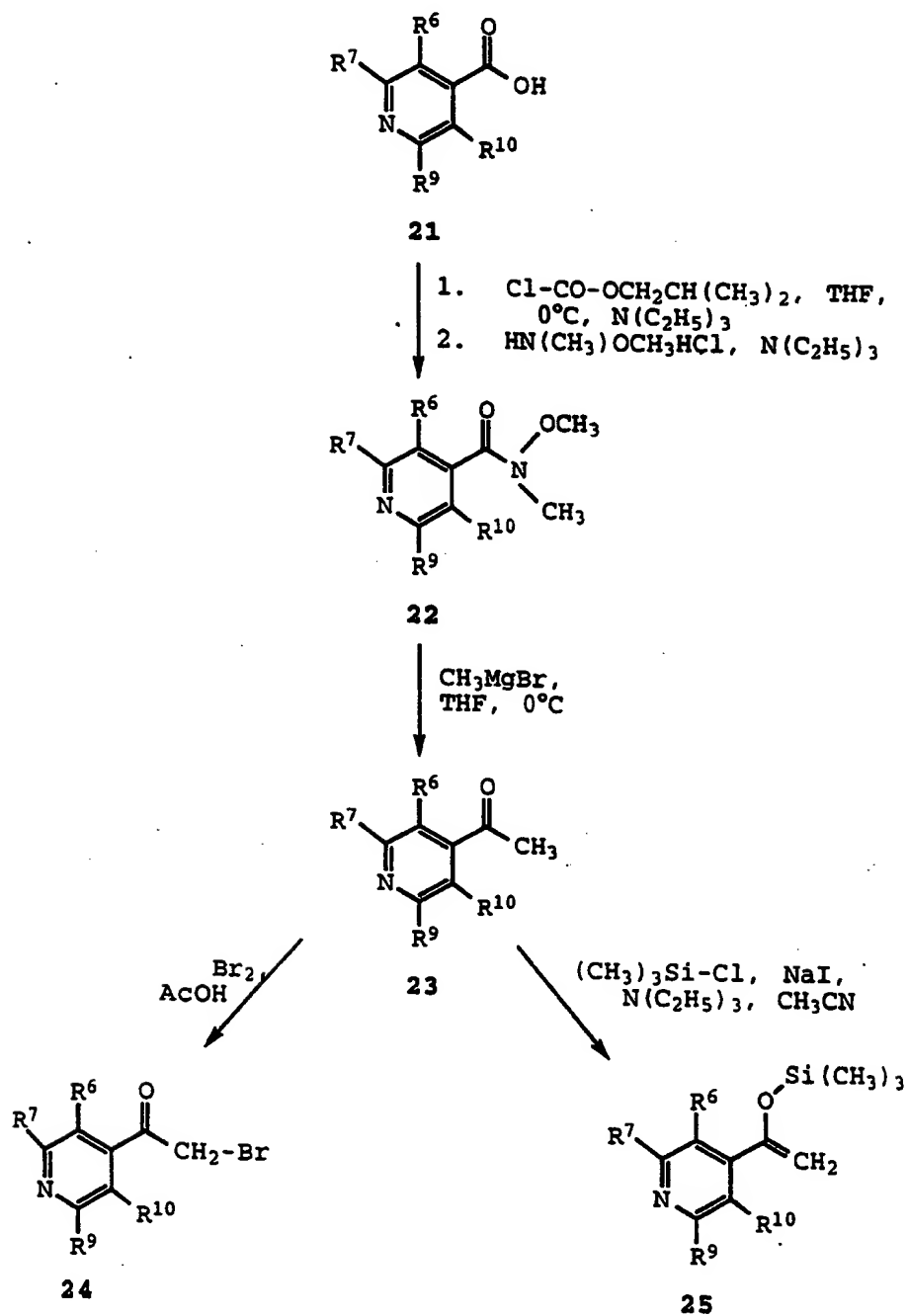
## Scheme IV



Synthetic Scheme IV shows the three step procedure used to prepare the 3-(bromoacetyl)pyridines 19 and the 3-pyridinyl silyl enol ethers 20 from commercially available nicotinic acids 16. In step one, a THF solution at 0°C of the nicotinic acids 16 and two equivalents of triethylamine are sequentially treated with isobutyl chloroformate and N-hydroxymethyl-N-methylamine hydrochloride to give the Weinreb amides 17. In step two, the amides 17 are reacted with methylmagnesium bromide to give the corresponding 3-acetylpyridines 18. In step three, the 3-acetylpyridines 18 are either treated with bromine in acetic acid to give the corresponding 3-(bromoacetyl)pyridines 19 or chlorotrimethylsilane in acetonitrile in the presence of triethylamine and sodium iodide to give the corresponding 3-pyridinyl silyl enol ethers 20.

54

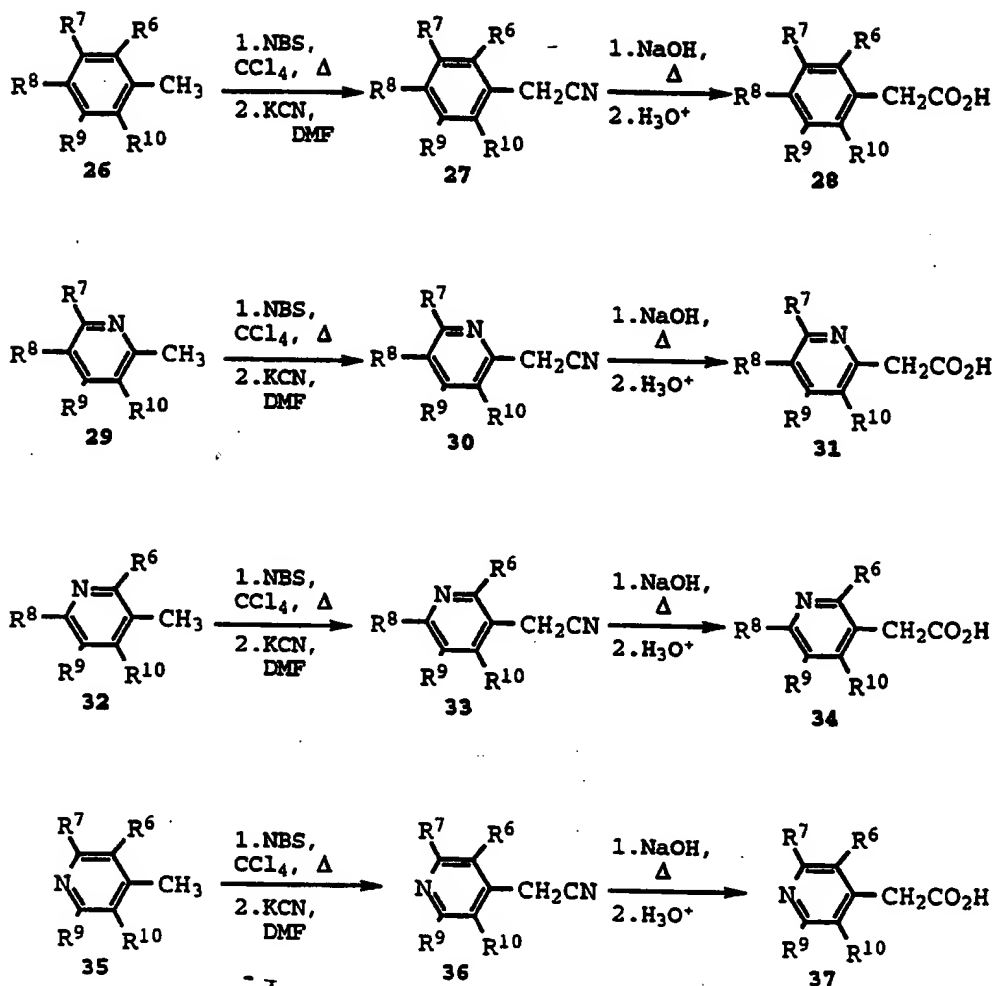
## Scheme V





Synthetic Scheme V shows the three step procedure used to prepare the 4-(bromoacetyl)pyridines 24 and the 4-pyridinyl silyl enol ethers 25 from commercially available isonicotinic acids 21. In step one, a THF solution at 0°C of the isonicotinic acids 21 and two equivalents of triethylamine are sequentially treated with isobutyl chloroformate and N-hydroxymethyl-N-methylamine hydrochloride to give the Weinreb amides 22. In step two, the amides 22 are reacted with methylmagnesium bromide to give the corresponding 4-acetylpyridines 23. In step three, the 4-acetylpyridines 23 are either treated with bromine in acetic acid to give the corresponding 4-(bromoacetyl)pyridines 24 or chlorotrimethylsilane in acetonitrile in the presence of triethylamine and sodium iodide to give the corresponding 4-pyridinyl silyl enol ethers 25.

## Scheme VI

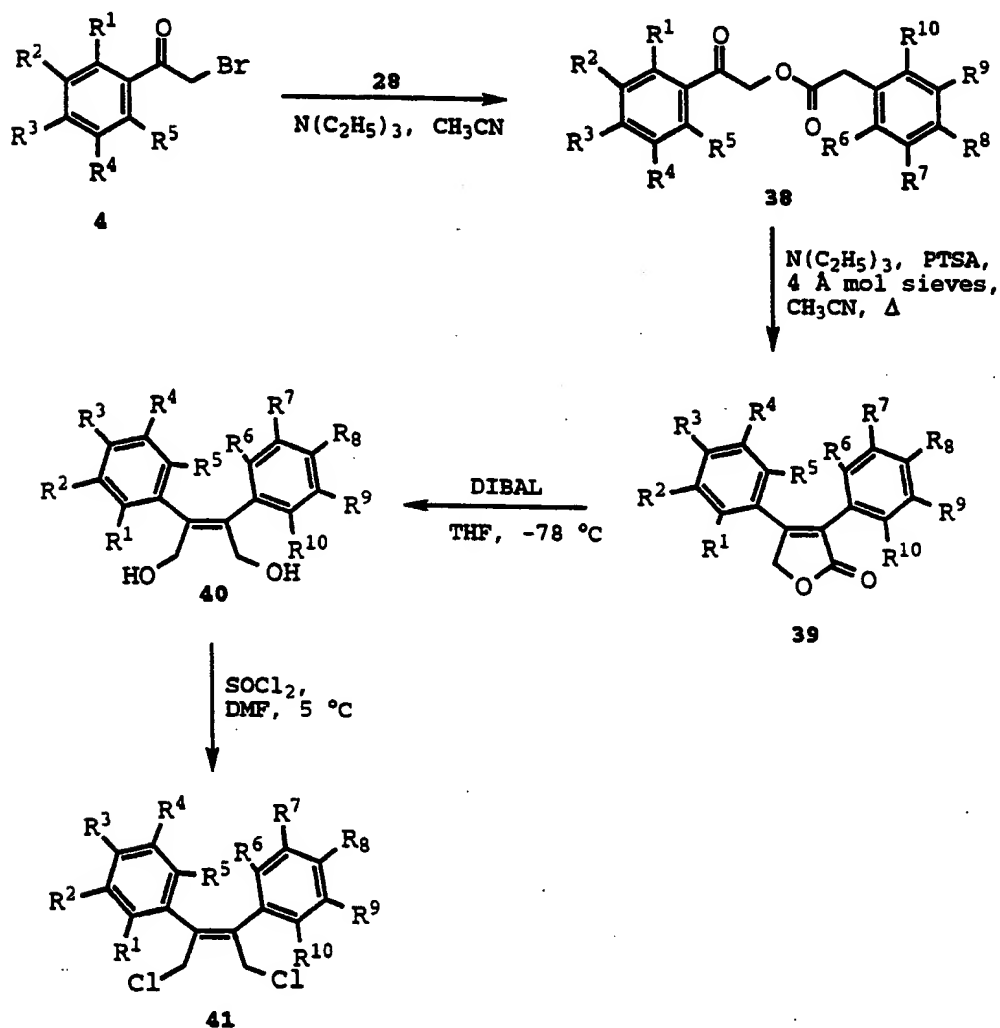


Synthetic Scheme VI shows the two step procedures which can be used to prepare the phenylacetic acids 28, 2-pyridinylacetic acids 31, 3-pyridinylacetic acids 34, and 4-pyridinylacetic acids 37 from commercially available toluenes 26, 2-picolines 29, 3-picolines 32, and 4-picolines 35, respectively. In step one, toluenes 26, 2-picolines 29, 3-picolines 32, and 4-picolines 35 are sequentially treated with N-bromosuccinimide (NBS) in carbon tetrachloride at reflux in the presence of a free radical initiator, e.g., 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionitrile) (AIBN), and potassium cyanide in DMF to give the corresponding

phenylacetonitriles 27, 2-pyridinylacetonitriles 30, 3-pyridinylacetonitriles 33, and 4-pyridinylacetonitriles 36, respectively. In step two, phenylacetonitriles 27, 2-pyridinylacetonitriles 30, 3-pyridinylacetonitriles 33, and 4-pyridinylacetonitriles 36 are hydrolyzed with aqueous sodium hydroxide; acidification provides the phenylacetic acids 28, 2-pyridinylacetic acids 31, 3-pyridinylacetic acids 34, and 4-pyridinylacetic acids 37, respectively.

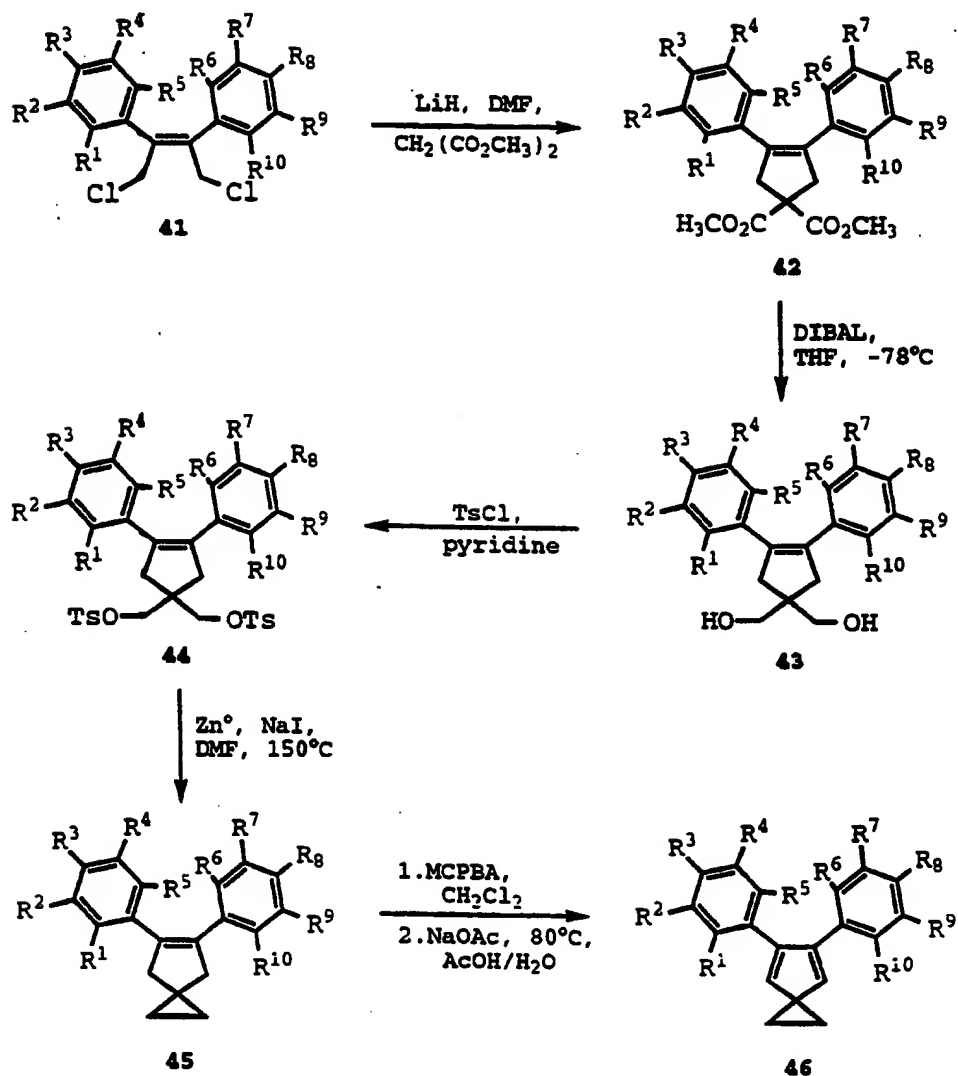
10

## Scheme VII



Synthetic Scheme VII shows the four step procedure used to prepare the *cis*-2,3-diaryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 41 from the bromoacetophenones 4 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme I) and the phenylacetic acids 28 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme VI). In step one, bromoacetophenones 4 are reacted with phenylacetic acids 28 in acetonitrile in the presence of triethylamine to give the corresponding esters 38. In step two, the esters 38 are cyclized to the corresponding furanones 39 on treatment with *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (PTSA) and triethylamine in the presence of 4 Å molecular sieves in acetonitrile at reflux. In step three, the furanones 39 are reacted with diisobutylaluminum hydride (DIBAL) to give the corresponding *cis*-diols 40. In step four, the *cis*-diols 40 are reacted with thionyl chloride in DMF at 5°C to give the corresponding *cis*-2,3-diaryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 41.

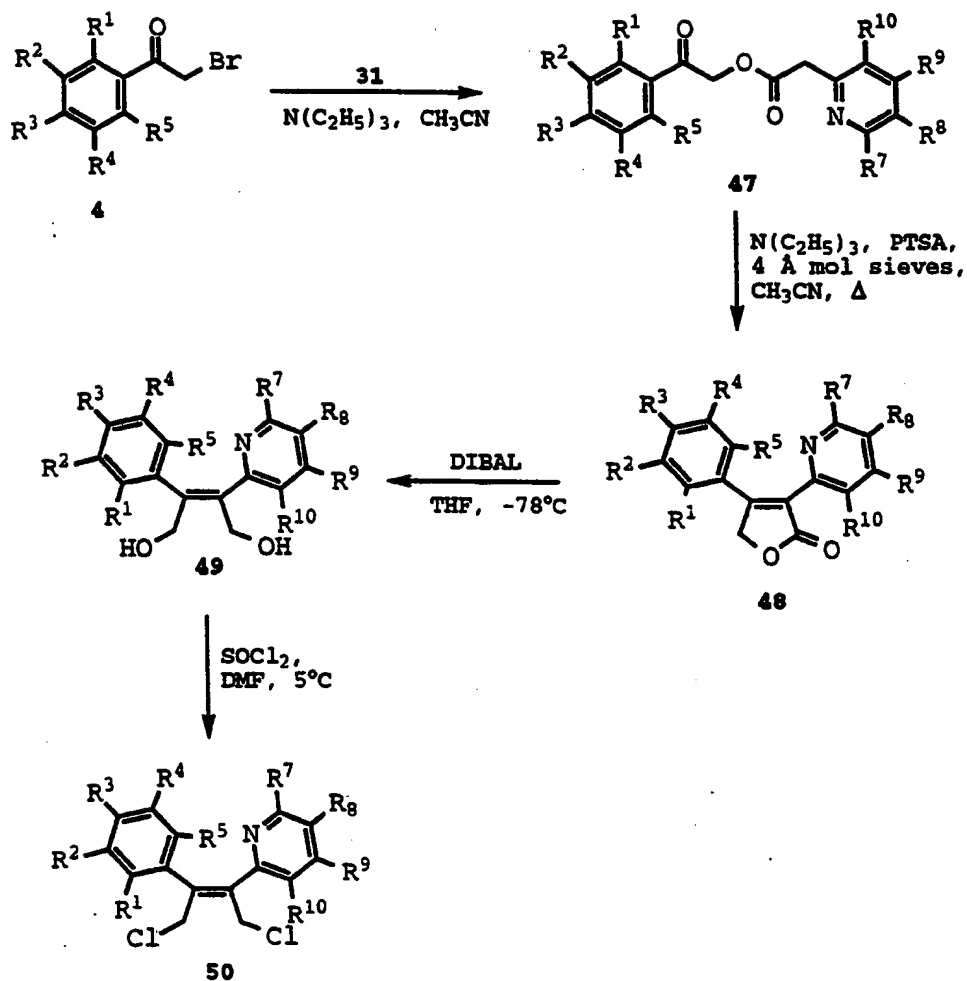
## Scheme VIII



Synthetic Scheme VIII shows the five step procedure used to prepare the 5,6-diarylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dienes 46 from the cis-2,3-diaryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 41 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme VII). In step one, the cis-2,3-diaryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 41 are reacted with dimethyl malonate in DMF in the presence of two equivalents of lithium hydride to give the corresponding 4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopentenenes 42. In step two, the 4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopentenenes 42 are reacted

with DIBAL in THF to give the corresponding 4,4-di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopentenenes 43. In step three, the 4,4-di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopentenenes 43 are reacted with *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (TsCl) in pyridine to give the corresponding 4,4-ditosylates 44. In step four, the 4,4-ditosylates 44 are reacted with metallic zinc and sodium iodide in DMF at 150°C to give 5,6-diarylspiro[2.4]hept-5-enes 45. In step five, the spiro[2.4]hept-5-enes 45 are first reacted with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (MCPBA) in methylene chloride at ambient temperature to give the corresponding epoxides which are subsequently reacted with sodium acetate in acetic acid/water (9:1) at 80°C to give the 5,6-diarylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene antiinflammatory agents 46 of this invention.

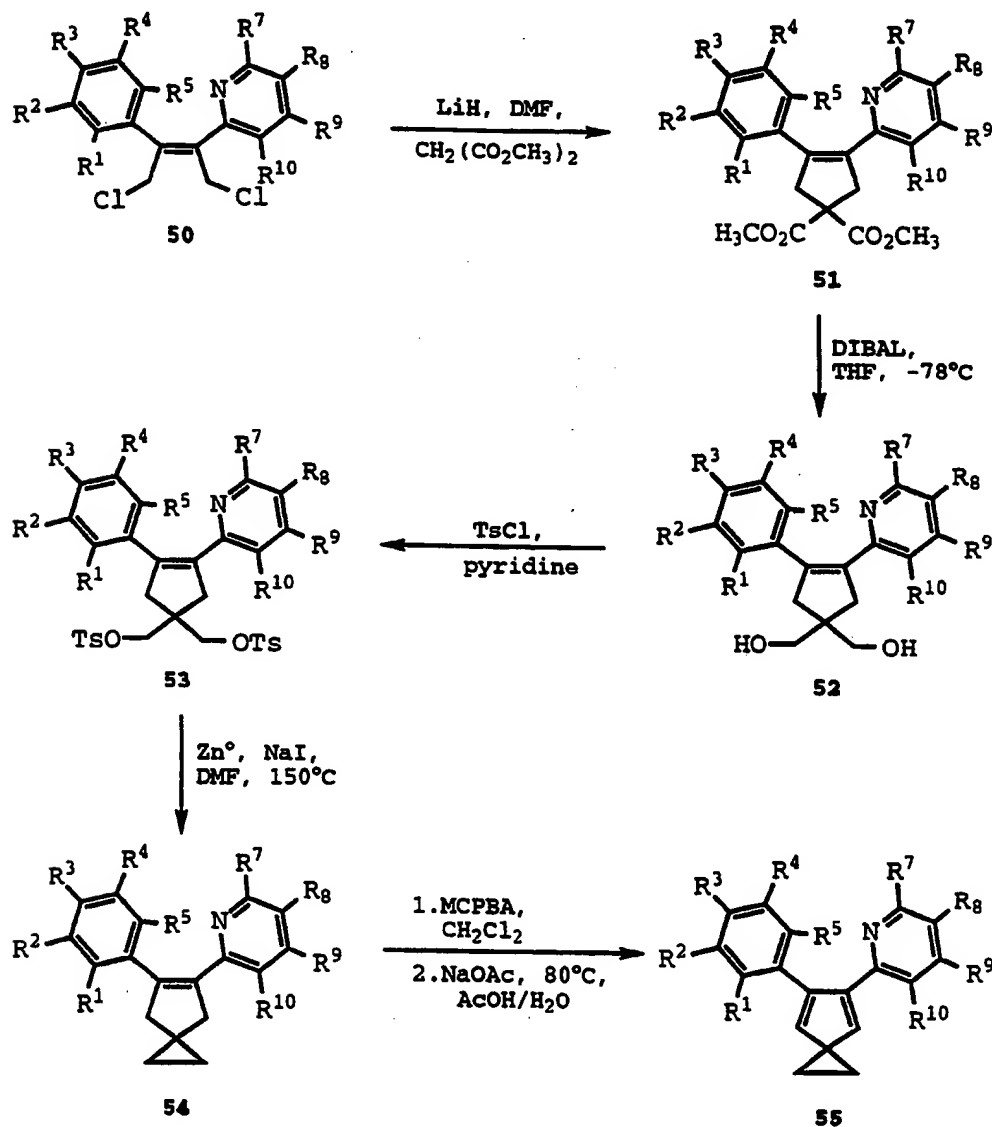
## Scheme IX



Synthetic Scheme IX shows the four step procedure used to prepare the *cis*-2-(2-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 50 from the bromoacetophenones 4 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme I) and the 2-pyridinylacetic acids 31 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme VI). In step one, bromoacetophenones 4 are reacted with 2-pyridinylacetic acids 31 in acetonitrile in the presence of triethylamine to give the corresponding esters 47. In step two, the esters 47 are cyclized to the corresponding furanones 48 on treatment with *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (PTSA) and triethylamine in the presence of 4 Å molecular sieves in

acetonitrile at reflux. In step three, the furanones 48 are reacted with diisobutylaluminum hydride (DIBAL) to give the corresponding *cis*-diols 49. In step four, the *cis*-diols 49 are reacted with thionyl chloride in DMF at 5°C to give the corresponding *cis*-2-(2-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 50.

### Scheme X

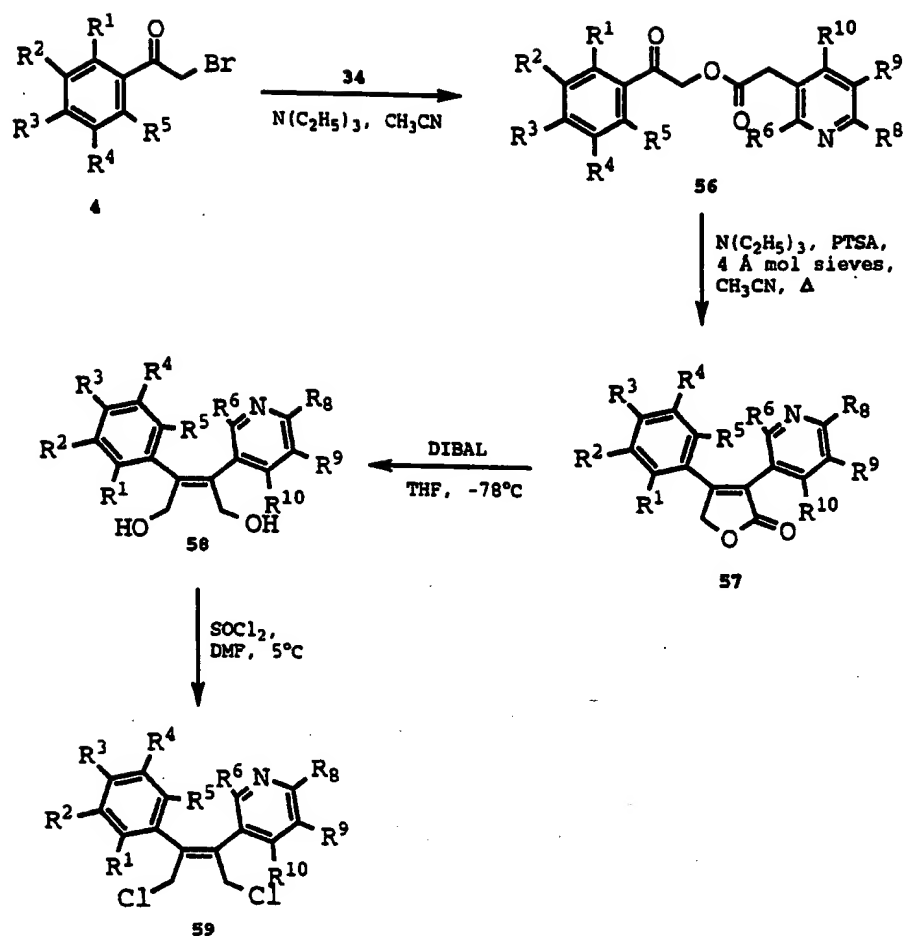




Synthetic Scheme X shows the five step procedure used to prepare the 5-(2-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dienes 55 from the *cis*-2-(2-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 50 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme IX).

- 5 In step one, the *cis*-2-(2-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 50 are reacted with dimethyl malonate in DMF in the presence of two equivalents of lithium hydride to give the corresponding 4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopentenenes 51. In step two, the 4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopentenenes 51 are
- 10 reacted with DIBAL in THF to give the corresponding 4,4-di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopentenenes 52. In step three, the 4,4-di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopentenenes 52 are reacted with *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (TsCl) in pyridine to give the corresponding 4,4-ditosylates 53. In step four, the 4,4-
- 15 ditosylates 53 are reacted with metallic zinc and sodium iodide in DMF at 150°C to give 5-(2-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hept-5-enes 54. In step five, the spiro[2.4]hept-5-enes 54 are first reacted with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (MCPBA) in methylene chloride at
- 20 ambient temperature to give the corresponding epoxides which are subsequently reacted with sodium acetate in acetic acid/water (9:1) at 80°C to give the 5-(2-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene
- 25 antiinflammatory agents 55 of this invention.

## Scheme XI

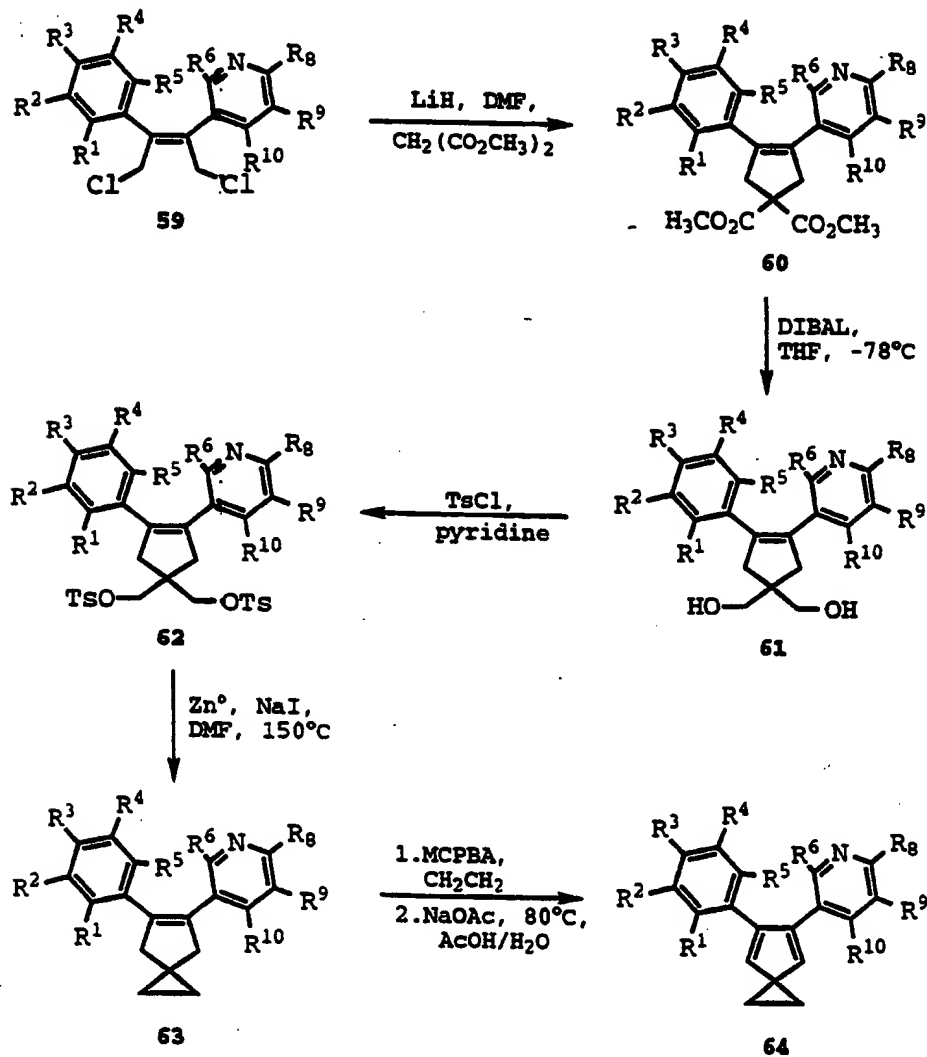


Synthetic Scheme XI shows the four step procedure used to prepare the *cis*-2-(3-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 59 from the bromoacetophenones 4 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme I) and the 3-pyridinylacetic acids 34 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme VI). In step one, bromoacetophenones 4 are reacted with 3-pyridinylacetic acids 34 in acetonitrile in the presence of triethylamine to give the corresponding esters 56. In step two, the esters 56 are cyclized to the corresponding furanones 57 on treatment with *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (PTSA) and triethylamine in the presence of 4 Å molecular sieves in acetonitrile at reflux. In step three, the furanones 57 are reacted with diisobutylaluminum hydride (DIBAL) to

give the corresponding *cis*-diols 58. In step four, the *cis*-diols 58 are reacted with thionyl chloride in DMF at 5°C to give the corresponding *cis*-2-(3-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 59.

5

### Scheme XII

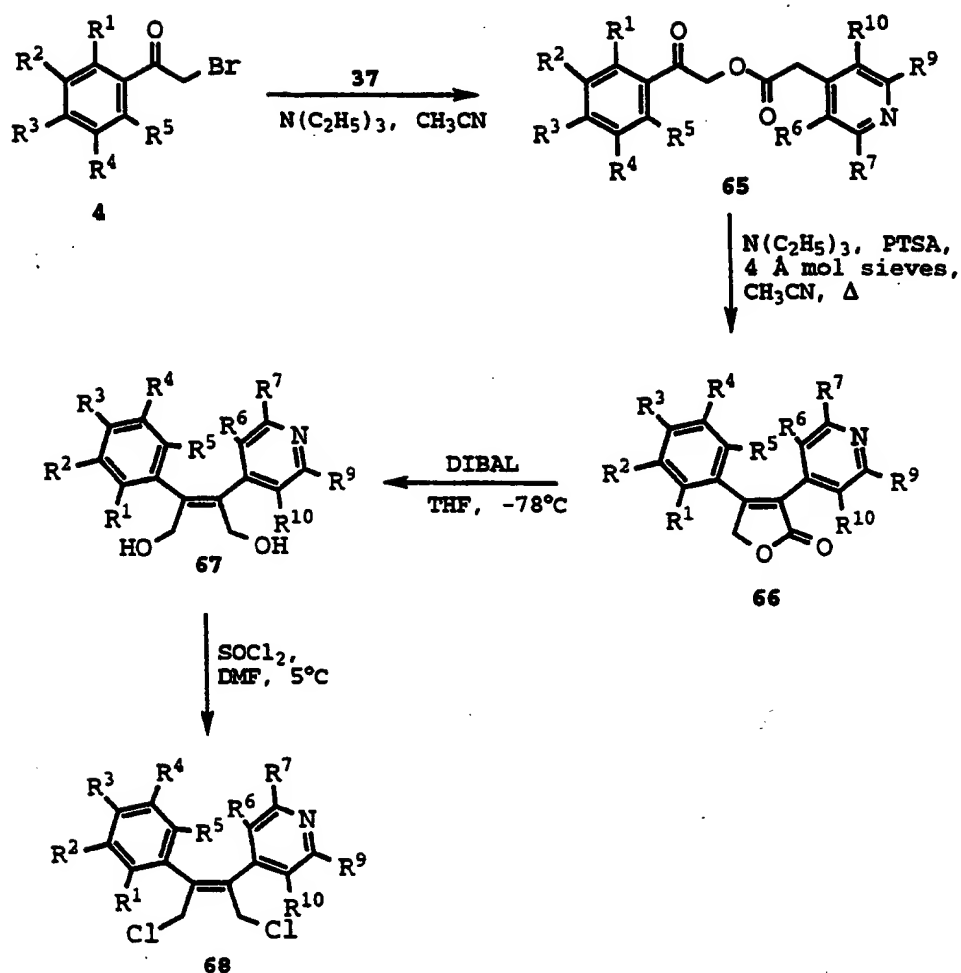


Synthetic Scheme XII shows the five step procedure used to prepare the 5-(3-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dienes 64 from the *cis*-2-(3-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 59 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme XI). In step one, the *cis*-2-(3-

10

pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 59 are reacted with dimethyl malonate in DMF in the presence of two equivalents of lithium hydride to give the corresponding 4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopentenenes 60. In step two, the 5 4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopentenenes 60 are reacted with DIBAL in THF to give the corresponding 4,4-di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopentenenes 61. In step three, the 4,4-di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopentenenes 61 are reacted with p-toluenesulfonyl chloride (TsCl) in pyridine to give the 10 corresponding 4,4-ditosylates 62. In step four, the 4,4-ditosylates 62 are reacted with metallic zinc and sodium iodide in DMF at 150°C to give 5-(3-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hept-5-enes 63. In step five, the 15 spiro[2.4]hept-5-enes 63 are first reacted with m-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (MCPBA) in methylene chloride at ambient temperature to give the corresponding epoxides which are subsequently reacted with sodium acetate in acetic acid/water (9:1) at 80°C to give the 5-(3-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene 20 antiinflammatory agents 64 of this invention.

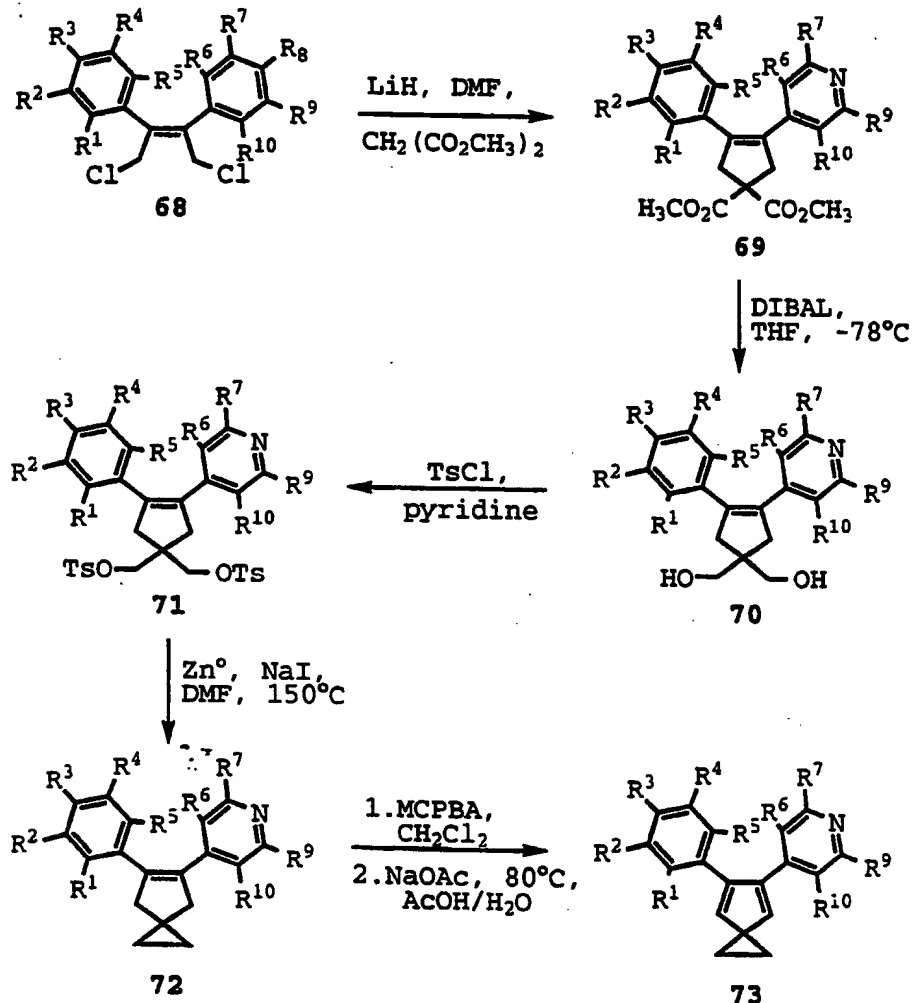
## Scheme XIII



Synthetic Scheme XIII shows the four step procedure used to prepare the *cis*-2-(4-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 68 from the bromoacetophenones 4 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme I) and the 4-pyridinylacetic acids 37 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme VI). In step one, bromoacetophenones 4 are reacted with 4-pyridinylacetic acids 37 in acetonitrile in the presence of triethylamine to give the corresponding esters 65. In step two, the esters 65 are cyclized to the corresponding furanones 66 on treatment with *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (PTSA) and triethylamine in the presence of 4 Å molecular sieves in acetonitrile at reflux. In step three, the furanones 66

are reacted with diisobutylaluminum hydride (DIBAL) to give the corresponding *cis*-diols 67. In step four, the *cis*-diols 67 are reacted with thionyl chloride in DMF at 5°C to give the corresponding *cis*-2-(4-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 68.

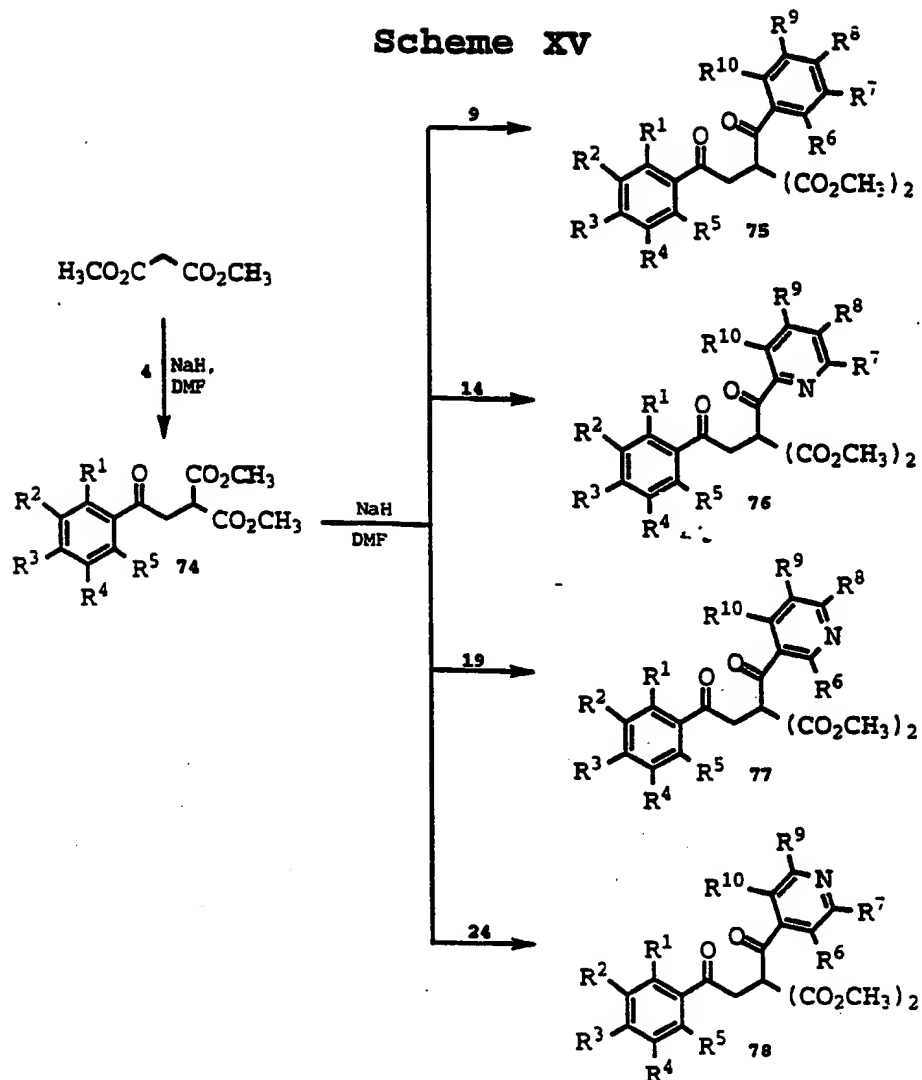
### Scheme XIV



Synthetic Scheme XIV shows the five step procedure used to prepare the 5-(4-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dienes 73 from the *cis*-2-(4-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 68 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme XIII). In step one, the *cis*-2-(4-pyridinyl)-3-aryl-1,4-dichloro-2-butenes 68 are reacted

with dimethyl malonate in DMF in the presence of two equivalents of lithium hydride to give the corresponding 4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopentenones 69. In step two, the 4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopentenones 69 are reacted with DIBAL in THF to give the corresponding 4,4-di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopentenones 70. In step three, the 4,4-di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopentenones 70 are reacted with *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (TsCl) in pyridine to give the corresponding 4,4-ditosylates 71. In step four, the 4,4-ditosylates 71 are reacted with metallic zinc and sodium iodide in DMF at 150°C to give 5-(4-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hept-5-enes 72. In step five, the spiro[2.4]hept-5-enes 72 are first reacted with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (MCPBA) in methylene chloride at ambient temperature to give the corresponding epoxides which are subsequently reacted with sodium acetate in acetic acid/water (9:1) at 80°C to give the 5-(4-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene antiinflammatory agents 73 of this invention.

## Scheme XV

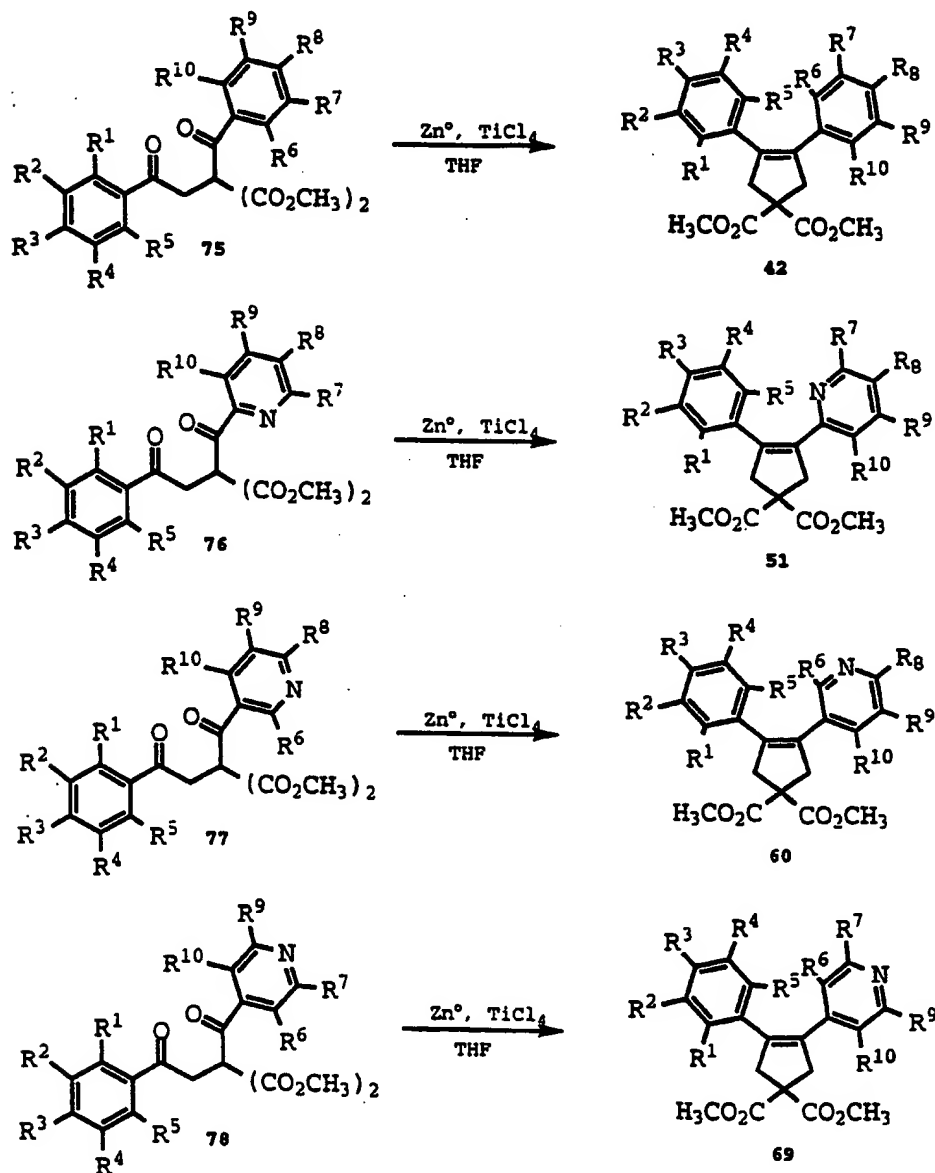


- Synthetic Scheme XV shows a two step procedure which can be used to prepare the dialkylated compounds
- 5 **75, 76, 77 and 78.** In step one, dimethyl malonate and sodium hydride in DMF is reacted with the bromoacetophenones **4** (prepared in Synthetic Scheme I) to give the monoalkylated compounds **74**. In step two, the monoalkylated compounds **74** are reacted with the
  - 10 bromoacetophenones **9** (prepared in Synthetic Scheme II), the 2-(bromoacetyl)pyridines **14** (prepared in Synthetic Scheme III), the 3-(bromoacetyl)pyridines **19** (prepared in Synthetic Scheme IV), and the 4-(bromoacetyl)pyridines **24**



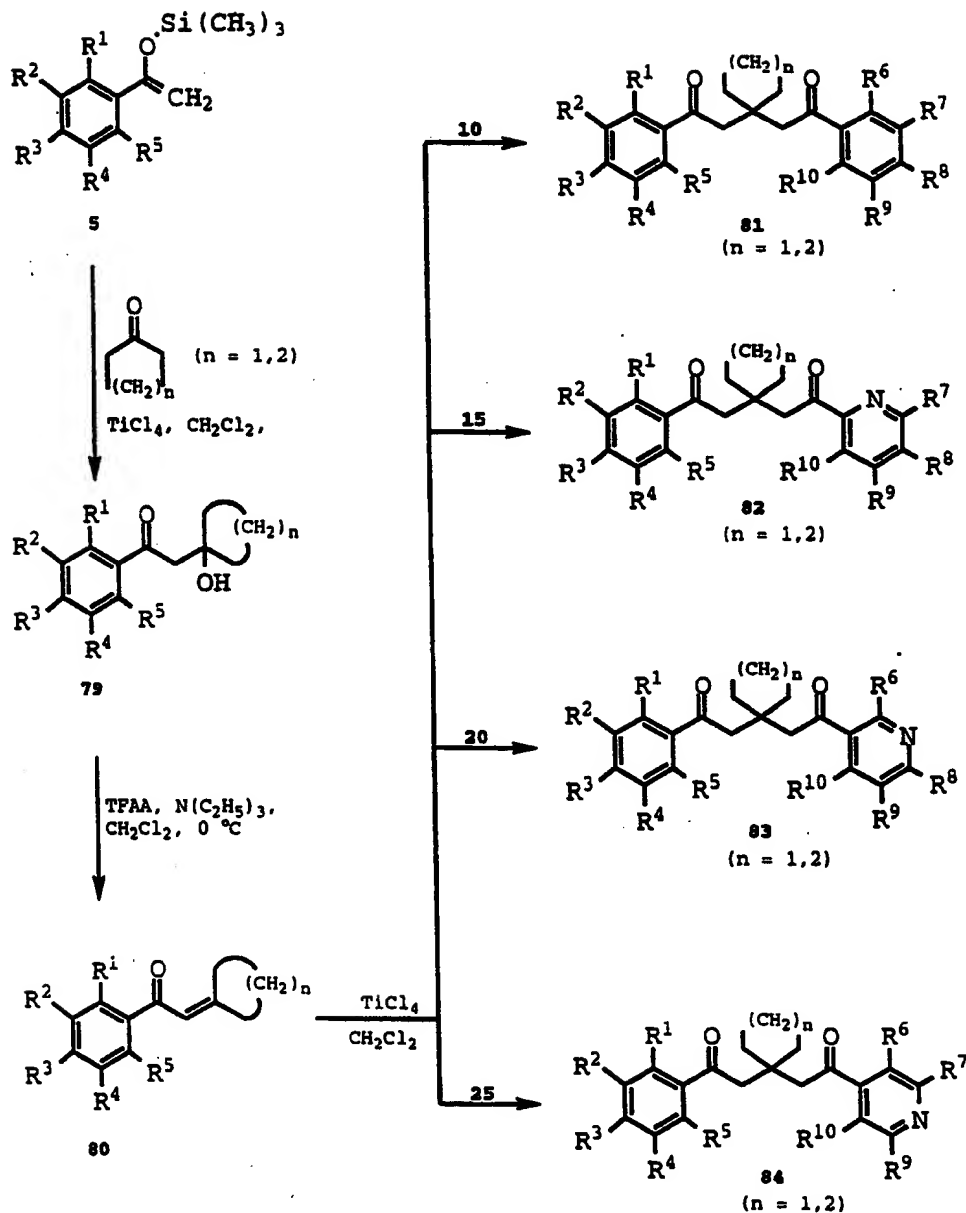
(prepared in Synthetic Scheme V) in DMF in the presence of sodium hydride to give the dialkylated compounds 75, 76, 77 and 78, respectively.

### Scheme XVI



Synthetic Scheme XVI shows an alternative procedure which can be used to prepare the 4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopentenones 42, 51, 60 and 69 from the dialkylated compounds 75, 76, 77 and 78, respectively (prepared in Synthetic Scheme XV). The dialkylated compounds 75, 76, 77 and 78 are reacted with metallic zinc and titanium(IV) chloride in THF to give the 4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopentenones 42, 51, 60 and 69, respectively. By procedures outlined in Schemes VIII, X, XII, and XIV, 42, 51, 60, and 69 can be converted to the 5,6-diarylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene antiinflammatory agents 46, 5-(2-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene antiinflammatory agents 55, 5-(3-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4] hepta-4,6-diene antiinflammatory agents 64, and 5-(4-pyridinyl)-6-arylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene antiinflammatory agents 73, respectively, of this invention.

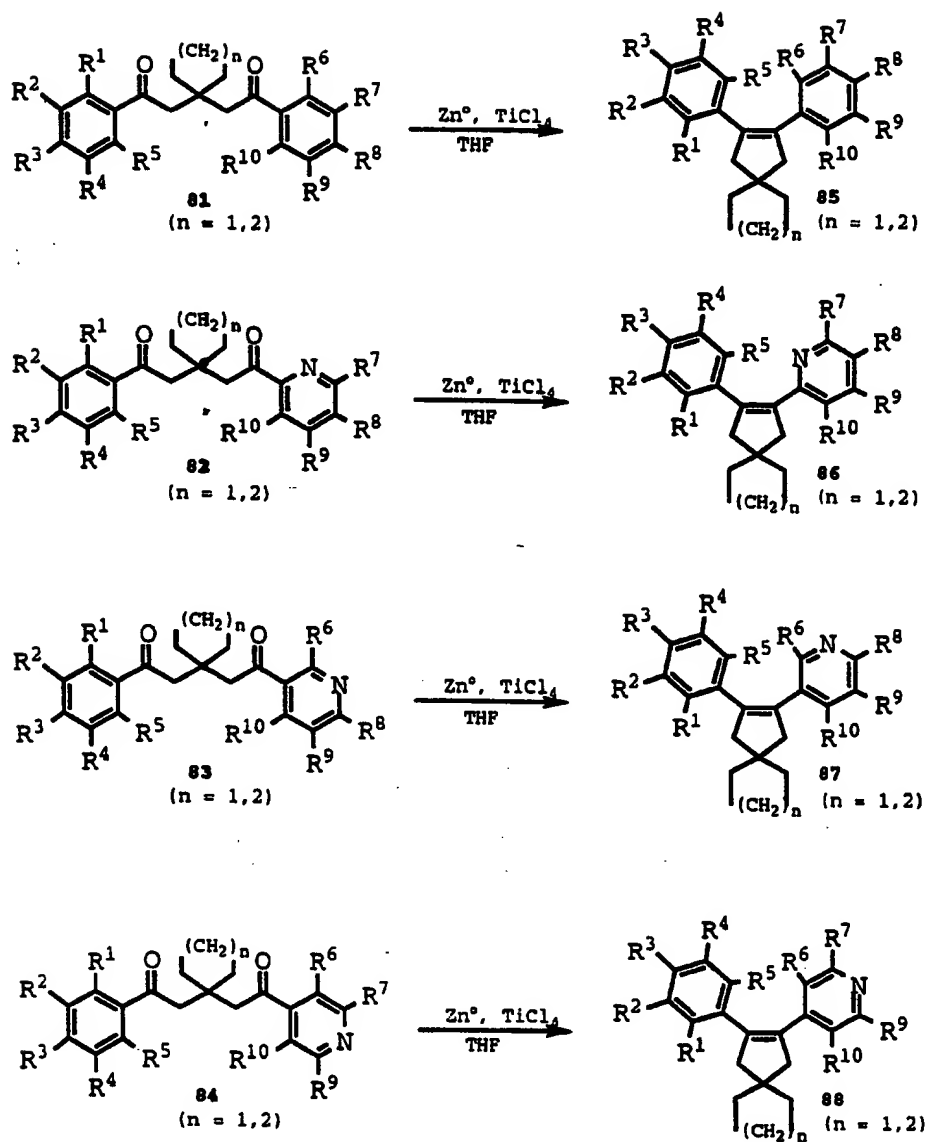
## Scheme XVII



Synthetic Scheme XVII shows the three step procedure used to prepare the cycloalkyldiketones 81, 82, 83 and 84 from the phenyl silyl enol ethers 5 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme I) and cycloalkanones (n = 1, 2). In step one, the silyl enol ethers 5 are reacted with cycloalkanones (n = 1, 2) in methylene chloride in the presence of titanium(IV) chloride to give the

corresponding cycloalkanols 79. In step two, the cycloalkanols 79 are dehydrated with trifluoroacetic anhydride and triethylamine in methylene chloride at 0°C to give the corresponding conjugated exocyclic olefins 80. In step three, the olefins 80 are reacted with the phenyl silyl enol ethers 10 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme II), 2-pyridinyl silyl enol ethers 15 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme III), 3-pyridinyl silyl enol ethers 20 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme IV), and 4-pyridinyl silyl enol ethers 25 (prepared in Synthetic Scheme V) to give the cycloalkyldiketones ( $n = 1,2$ ) 81, 82, 83 and 84, respectively.

## Scheme XVIII



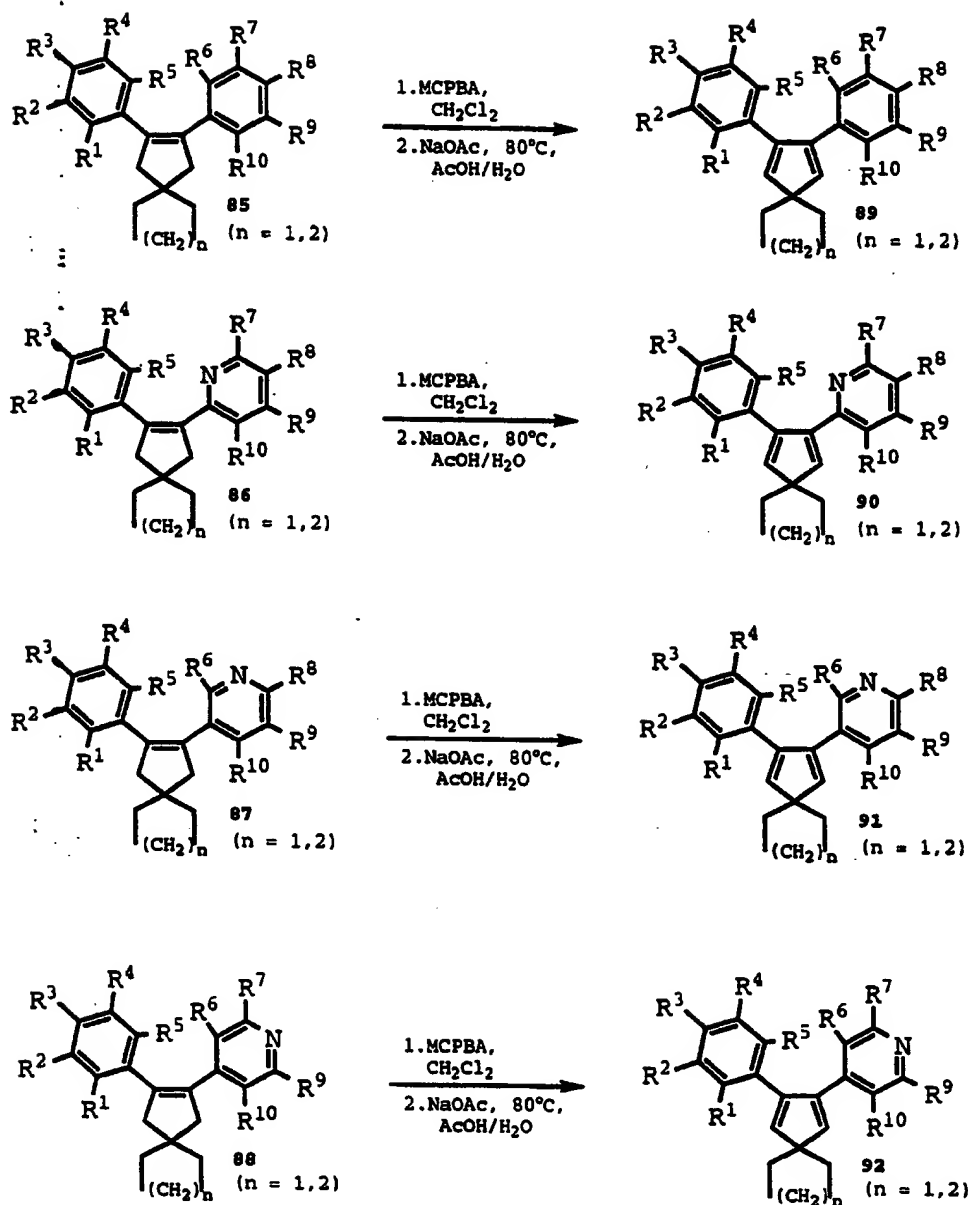
Synthetic Scheme XVIII shows the procedures used to prepare 6,7-diarylspiro[3.4]oct-6-enes **85** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2,3-diarylspiro[4.4]non-2-enes **85** ( $n = 2$ ), 6-(2-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]oct-6-enes **86** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(2-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro[4.4]non-2-enes **86** ( $n = 2$ ), 6-(3-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]oct-6-enes **87** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(3-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro[4.4]non-2-enes **87** ( $n = 2$ ), and 6-(4-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]oct-6-enes **88** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(4-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro[4.4]non-2-enes **88** ( $n = 2$ )

from cycloalkyldiketones ( $n = 1, 2$ ) 81, 82, 83 and 84, respectively (prepared in Synthetic Scheme XVII). The cycloalkyldiketones ( $n = 1, 2$ ) 81, 82, 83 and 84 are reacted with metallic zinc and titanium(IV) chloride in

5 THF to give 6,7-diarylspiro[3.4]oct-6-enes 85 ( $n = 1$ ) and 2,3-diarylspiro[4.4]non-2-enes 85 ( $n = 2$ ), 6-(2-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]oct-6-enes 86 ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(2-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro[4.4]non-2-enes 86 ( $n = 2$ ), the 6-(3-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]oct-6-enes 87 ( $n = 1$ ) and

10 2-(3-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro [4.4]non-2-enes 87 ( $n = 2$ ), and the 6-(4-pyridinyl)-7-aryl spiro[3.4]oct-6-enes 88 ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(4-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro[4.4]non-2-enes 88 ( $n = 2$ ), respectively.

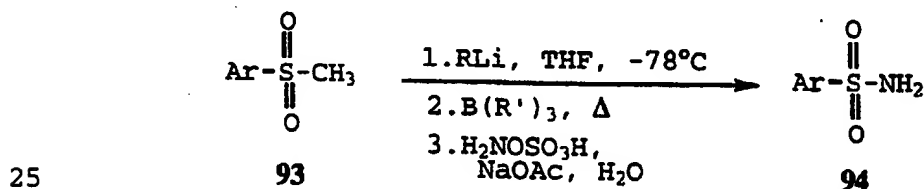
## Scheme XIX



Synthetic Scheme XIX shows the procedures which can be used to prepare 6,7-diarylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dienes **89** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2,3-diarylspiro [4.4]nona-1,3-dienes **89** ( $n = 2$ ), 6-(2-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dienes **90** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(2-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dienes **90** ( $n = 2$ ), 6-(3-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dienes **91** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(3-pyridinyl)-3-

arylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dienes **91** ( $n = 2$ ), and 6-(4-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dienes **92** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(4-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dienes **92** ( $n = 2$ ) from **85**, **86**, **87** and **88**, respectively (prepared in  
 5 Synthetic Scheme XVIII). The spirocyclopentenones **85**, **86**, **87** and **88** are first reacted with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (MCPBA) in methylene chloride at ambient temperature to give the corresponding epoxides which are subsequently  
 10 reacted with sodium acetate in acetic acid/water (9:1) at 80°C to give the 6,7-diarylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene antiinflammatory agents **89** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2,3-diarylspiro[4.4]non-1,3-diene antiinflammatory agents **89** ( $n = 2$ ), 6-(2-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene  
 antiinflammatory agents **90** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(2-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene antiinflammatory agents **90**  
 15 ( $n = 2$ ), 6-(3-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene antiinflammatory agents **91** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(3-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene antiinflammatory agents **91** ( $n = 2$ ), and 6-(4-pyridinyl)-7-arylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-  
 20 diene antiinflammatory agents **92** ( $n = 1$ ) and 2-(4-pyridinyl)-3-arylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene antiinflammatory agents **92** ( $n = 2$ ), respectively, of this invention.

### Scheme XX



Synthetic Scheme XX shows the three step  
 procedure used to prepare sulfonamide antiinflammatory  
 agents **93** from their corresponding methyl sulfones **93**.  
 30 In step one, a THF solution of the methyl sulfones **93** at  
 -78°C are treated with an alkyl lithium reagent, e.g.,



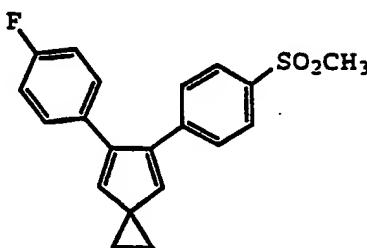
methylolithium, n-butyllithium, etc. In step two, the anions generated in step one is treat d with an organoborane, e.g., triethylborane, tributylborane, etc., at -78°C then allowed to warm to ambient

5 temperature prior to stirring at reflux. In step three, an aqueous solution of sodium acetate and hydroxyamine-O-sulfonic acid is added to provide the corresponding sulfonamide antiinflammatory agents 94 of this invention.

10

The following examples contain detailed descriptions of the methods of preparation of compounds of Formula I-VI. These detailed descriptions fall within the scope, and serve to exemplify, the above described General Synthetic Procedures which form part of the invention. These detailed descriptions are presented for illustrative purposes only and are not intended as a restriction on the scope of the invention. All parts are by weight and temperatures are in Degrees centigrade unless otherwise indicated.

### Example 1



25 5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene

Step 1: Preparation of 4-(methylthio)acetophenone

To a stirred solution of 50 g (340 mmol) of 4-  
30 (methylthio)benzonitrile in 2 L of THF at -78°C under an  
atmosphere of nitrogen was added 282 mL (390 mmol) of  
methyllithium (1.4 M in diethyl ether) over a period of

ten minutes. The solution was stirred at  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$  for one hour, and then the dry ice bath was removed. After five hours, 100 mL of water followed by 200 mL of 3N hydrochloric acid were added to the reaction mixture and it was stirred overnight. Concentration in vacuo gave a residue which was partitioned between ethyl acetate and water. The water layer was extracted with three portions of ethyl acetate and the combined ethyl acetate layers were dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ). Concentration in vacuo gave 58 g of crude (4-methylthio)acetophenone as a solid: NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.52 (s, 3H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 7.26 (d,  $J = 9$  Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d,  $J = 9$  Hz, 2H).

Step 2: Preparation of 4-(methylsulfonyl)acetophenone

To a solution of 11.73 g (71.1 mmol) of 4-(methylsulfonyl)acetophenone (prepared in Step 1) in 500 mL of dichloromethane at ambient temperature was added 61.14 g (177 mmol) of *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (50%) (MCPBA) in portions over 20 minutes. The reaction was stirred for two hours, quenched slowly with aqueous sodium bisulfite, washed with three 100 mL portions of saturated sodium bicarbonate, dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ), and concentrated in vacuo to give 11.91 g (91%) of 4-methylsulfonyl)acetophenone as a colorless solid: NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.67 (s, 3H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 8.06 (d,  $J = 9$  Hz, 2H), 8.14 (d,  $J = 9$  Hz, 2H).

Step 3: Preparation of 2-bromo-4'-(methylsulfonyl)acetophenone

To a stirred solution of 11.91 g (60.5 mmol) of 4-(methylsulfonyl)acetophenone (prepared in Step 2) in 133 mL of glacial acetic acid and 0.11 mL of hydrochloric acid at ambient temperature was added a solution of 8.22 g (51.4 mmol) of bromine in 9.3 mL of glacial acetic acid over a period of three hours. The

reaction mixture was diluted with 500 mL of water and extracted with chloroform. The combined extracts were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated in vacuo to give 15.7 g of crude 2-bromo-(4'-methylsulfonyl)acetophenone as a solid: NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.10 (s, 3H), 4.45 (s, 2H), 8.08 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 8.17 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H).

Step 4: Preparation of 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-[2-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-oxoethoxy]ethanone

10

To a stirred solution of 4.45 g (28.9 mmol) of 4-fluorophenylacetic acid in 3.26 g (31.8 mmol) of triethylamine and 275 mL of acetonitrile was added 8.9 g (28.9 mmol) of 2-bromo-4'-(methylsulfonyl)acetophenone (prepared in Step 3) at ambient temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 minutes, concentrated in vacuo, and partitioned between ethyl acetate and water. The organic phase was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated in vacuo. Purification by silica gel chromatography with ethyl acetate/hexane (1:1) gave 6.87 g (68%) of 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-[2-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-oxoethoxy]ethanone as a colorless solid: NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.08 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 2H), 5.35 (s, 2H), 7.06 (s, t,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (dd,  $J$  = 6 and 9 Hz, 2H), 8.06 (s, 4H).

25

Step 5: Preparation of 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5H-furan-2-one

30

Under nitrogen, 4.10 g (11.7 mmol) of 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-[2-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-oxoethoxy]ethanone (prepared in Step 4), 6.52 mL (46.8 mmol) of triethylamine, 4.89 g (25.7 mmol) of *p*-toluenesulfonic acid, and 12 g of 4Å molecular sieves were added to 117 mL of acetonitrile and stirred at reflux for 16 hours. The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo and the residue partitioned

35

between dichloromethane and water. The dichloromethane layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and reconcentrated in vacuo. Recrystallization from hexane/ethyl acetate (2:1) gave 3.65 g (94%) of 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5H-furan-2-one as a solid: mp 166-167°C; NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.08 (s, 3H), 5.19 (s, 2H), 7.10 (t,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (dd,  $J$  = 6 and 9 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H). HRMS. Calc'd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>13</sub>FO<sub>4</sub>S: 332.0519. Found: 332.0501. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>13</sub>FO<sub>4</sub>S: C, 61.44; H, 3.94; O, 19.26. Found: C, 61.11; H, 4.06; O, 19.32.

Step 6: Preparation of 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1,4-dihydroxy-2-butene

To a solution of 3.08 g (9.28 mmol) of 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5H-furan-2-one (prepared in Step 5) in 93 mL of tetrahydrofuran (THF) at -78°C under an atmosphere of nitrogen was added 20 mL (30 mmol) of diisobutylaluminum hydride (DIBAL) (1.5 M in THF) over a 10 minute period. The solution was stirred at -78°C for 20 minutes, allowed to warm to ambient temperature, and stirred overnight. An additional 15 mL (22 mmol) aliquot of DIBAL was added and stirring was continued for 2 hours. The reaction was cooled to -78°C, treated dropwise with 25 mL of acetone, warmed to room temperature, and slowly treated with 25 mL of water. The mixture was stirred for 30 minutes prior to the careful addition of 35 mL of 1.2 N sodium hydroxide. The mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate, washed with 1 N hydrochloric acid followed by brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated in vacuo to give 3.8 g of crude 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1,4-dihydroxy-2-butene as a colorless oil: NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.98 (s, 3H), 4.60 (d,  $J$  = 6 Hz, 4H), 6.8 (t,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 6.94-7.02 (m, 2H), 7.22 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H).

Step 7: Preparation of 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1,4-dichloro-2-butene

5 To a solution of 3.5 g (7.62 mmol) of crude 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1,4-dihydroxy-2-butene (prepared in Step 6) in 58 mL of N,N-dimethylformamide (DMF) at 5°C under an atmosphere of nitrogen was added dropwise 1.52 mL (20.84 mmol) of  
10 thionyl chloride. The reaction was stirred at 5°C for 22 hours, stirred at ambient temperature for an additional 8 hours, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was partitioned between ethyl acetate and water; the ethyl acetate phase was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated in  
15 vacuo to give crude 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1,4-dichloro-2-butene as a solid: NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.0 (s, 3H), 4.55 (d,  $J$  = 3.4 Hz, 4H), 6.86 (t,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H).

20

Step 8. A: Preparation of 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene

25 To a solution of 1.2 mL (10.5 mmol) of dimethyl malonate in 10 mL of DMF under an atmosphere of nitrogen was added 215 mg (26.9 mmol) of lithium hydride in portions. The resulting suspension was stirred at ambient temperature for 20 minutes prior to the addition  
30 of a solution of crude 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1,4-dichloro-2-butene (prepared in Step 7) in 10 mL of DMF. The reaction was stirred at ambient temperature for 15 hours, treated with another 150 mg (18.8 mmol) of lithium hydride, and stirred for  
35 another 4 hours. The mixture was concentrated in vacuo and partitioned between ethyl acetate and water; the organic phase was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated in

vacuo. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel to give 1.1 g (34%) of 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene as an oil: NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.03 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 4H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 6.93 (t,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (dd,  $J$  = 6 and 9 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H).

10 Step 8. B: Preparation of 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene

To a solution of 7.18 mL (63 mmol) of dimethyl malonate in 160 mL of DMF at 0°C under an atmosphere of nitrogen was added 3.0 g (75 mmol) of sodium hydride (60% suspension in oil). The reaction was stirred at ambient temperature for 15 minutes (or until the gas evolution has ceased), cooled to -20°C, and treated with 15 g (69 mmol) of 2-bromo-4'-fluoroacetophenone (Aldrich) in one portion. The mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 1 hour and then cooled to 0°C; another 75 mmol of sodium hydride was added and the resulting mixture stirred at ambient temperature for 15 minutes (or until the gas evolution has ceased). The reaction was recooled to -20°C and treated with 19.1 g (69 mmol) of 2-bromo-4'-(methylsulfonyl)acetophenone (prepared in Step 3). The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was partitioned between water and ethyl acetate; the ethyl acetate phase was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and reconcentrated in vacuo. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel to give 13.8 g (51%) of dimethyl 2-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-oxoethyl]-2-[2-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-oxoethyl]propanedioate as an oil: NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.06 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 6H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 4.08 (s, 2H), 7.13 (t,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.97-8.05 [m with d at 8.03 ( $J$  = 8.7 Hz), 4H], 8.14 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H).

To a vigorously stirred mixture of 50.4 g (771 mmol) of zinc dust in 640 mL of THF at -78°C under an atmosphere of nitrogen was added dropwise 60.4 mL (551 mmol) of titanium(IV) chloride. The reaction was warmed to ambient temperature with a water bath and then stirred at reflux for 1 hour. To the resulting dark mixture under reflux was added a solution of 15 g (32.3 mmol) of dimethyl 2-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-oxoethyl]-2-[2-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-oxoethyl]propanedioate (prepared above) in 20 mL of THF. The resulting mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 16 hours, filtered through a pad of celite, rinsed with ethyl acetate, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was partitioned between water and ethyl acetate; the organic phase was washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel to give 6.26 g (44%) of 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene which was identical to the material prepared in Step 8, Method A.

Step 9: Preparation of 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene

Under nitrogen, a solution of 1.01 g (2.34 mmol) of 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-dicarbomethoxycyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (prepared in Step 8) in 1.5 mL of THF at -78°C was treated with 11.6 mL (11.6 mmol) of DIBAL (1.0 M in THF). The reaction was stirred at ambient temperature for 1.5 hours, quenched with acetone and aqueous NaOH, extracted with ethyl acetate, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated in vacuo to give 840 mg of crude 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-

(methylsulfonyl)benzene as a colorless oil: NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.82 (d,  $J$  = 5 Hz, 4H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 3.86 (d,  $J$  = 5 Hz, 4H), 6.94 (t,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (dd,  $J$  = 5 and 9 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz, 2H).

5

Step 10: Preparation of 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-di(tosylmethyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene

10

Under nitrogen, a solution of 2.34 mmol of the crude 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-

di(hydroxymethyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-

(methylsulfonyl)benzene (prepared in Step 9) in 8 mL of pyridine at ambient temperature was treated with 1.2 g

15

(6.3 mmol) of *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (tosyl chloride). The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 17 hours, concentrated *in vacuo*, and chromatographed on silica gel to give 1.06 g (66% overall yield from Step 9) of 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-

20

di(tosylmethyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-

(methylsulfonyl)benzene as a colorless solid: NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.46 (s, 6H), 2.73 (s, 3H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 4.05 (s, 4H), 6.85-7.0 (m, 4H), 7.20 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 4H), 7.75 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 6H).

25

Step 11: Preparation of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene

30

Under nitrogen, a solution of 1.02 g (1.49 mmol) of 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-di(tosylmethyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-

(methylsulfonyl)benzene (prepared in Step 10) in 24 mL of DMF was treated with 3.23 g (21.55 mmol) of sodium iodide and 1.61 g (24.63 mmol) of zinc dust. The

35

reaction was stirred at 150°C for 1.5 hours, concentrated *in vacuo*, and partitioned between water and ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed with sodium



sulfite, water, brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel to give 437 mg (86%) of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]

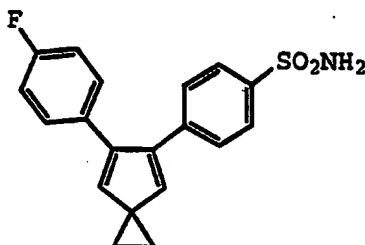
- 5 hept-5-ene as a colorless solid: mp 140.5-142.0°C; NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.69 (s, 4H), 2.92 (s, 4H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 6.93 (t, J = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (dd, J = 5 and 9 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H). HRMS. Calc'd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>FO<sub>2</sub>S: 342.1090. Found: 342.1126. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>FO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 70.15; H, 5.59; F, 5.55; S, 9.36. Found: C, 70.10; H, 5.69; F, 5.50; S, 9.60.

15 Step 12. Preparation of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene

- A solution of 500 mg (1.46 mmol) of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene (from Step 11) in 7 mL of dichloromethane was treated with 480 mg (55% peroxyacid, 1.53 mmol) of *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (MCPBA). The reaction was stirred at ambient temperature for 2.5 hours, washed with aqueous saturated sodium bisulfite, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated in vacuo to give a mixture of desired epoxide intermediate and *m*-chlorobenzoic acid; this crude mixture in 10 mL of acetic acid and 1 mL of water was subsequently treated with 500 mg (6.1 mmol) of sodium acetate and stirred at 80°C for 10 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to ambient temperature and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was partitioned between water and ethyl acetate; the organic phase was washed with aqueous saturated sodium bicarbonate, water, brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and reconcentrated in vacuo. Purification by silica gel chromatography gave 317 mg (64%) of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene as a colorless solid: mp 119-128°C (dec); NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.81 (s, 4H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 6.22 (d, J = 2 Hz, 1H), 6.36 d, J = 2 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (t,

$J = 8$  Hz, 2H), 7.02-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.33 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 2H). MS (FAB)  $m/e$  (rel intensity) 347 (100) (M+Li). HRMS. Calc'd for  $C_{20}H_{17}FO_2S$ : 340.0933. Found: 340.0952. Anal. Calc'd for  $C_{20}H_{17}FO_2S$ : C, 69.29; H, 4.97; F, 5.45. Found: C, 69.21; H, 5.23; F, 5.81.

## Example 2



10            4-[6-(4-Fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
              dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide

15            Step 1. Preparation of 4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)  
              spiro[2.4]hept-5-en-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide

              Under nitrogen, a solution of 90 mg (0.248 mmol) of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene (the title compound of Example 1) in 1 mL of THF at  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$  was  
20            treated with 0.21 mL (0.27 mmol) of methyllithium (1.3 M in ether) over a period of 2 minutes. The reaction was stirred at ambient temperature for 25 minutes, cooled to  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and treated with 0.3 mL (0.3 mmol) of tributylborane (1.0 M in THF). The resulting dark brown  
25            solution was stirred at ambient temperature for 20 minutes and then at reflux for 16 hours prior to the addition of 350 mg (4.27 mmol) of sodium acetate, 2 mL of water, and 250 mg (2.21 mmol) of hydroxylamine-O-sulfonic acid. The resulting light orange mixture was  
30            stirred at ambient temperature for 3 hours and the aqueous phase extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined extracts were washed with water, brine, dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ),

and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel to give 24 mg (27%) of 4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hept-5-en-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide as a colorless solid: mp 131.0-133.0°C; NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.68 (s, 4H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 6.92 (t, J = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (dd, J = 6 and 9 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, J = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, J = 9 Hz, 2H). HRMS. Calc'd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub>S: 344.1121. Found: 344.1122. Anal. Calc'd for [C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub>S + 0.1 CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>]: C, 66.16; H, 5.38; N, 3.98; S, 9.11. Found: C, 65.86; H, 5.52; N, 3.92; S, 9.57.

15 Step 2. Preparation of 4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide

A solution of 300 mg (0.88 mmol) of 4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hept-5-en-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide (from Step 1) in 5 mL of dichloromethane was treated with 300 mg (55% peroxyacid, 0.96 mmol) of *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (MCPBA). The reaction was stirred at ambient temperature for 2.5 hours, washed with aqueous saturated sodium bisulfite, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated in vacuo to give a mixture of desired epoxide intermediate and *m*-chlorobenzoic acid; this crude mixture in 6 mL of acetic acid and 0.6 mL of water was subsequently treated with 300 mg (3.7 mmol) of sodium acetate and stirred at 80°C for 10 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to ambient temperature and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was partitioned between water and ethyl acetate; the organic phase was washed with aqueous saturated sodium bicarbonate, water, brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and reconcentrated in vacuo. Purification by silica gel chromatography gave 118 mg (39%) of 4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide as a colorless solid: mp 110-116°C (dec); NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.80 (s, 4H), 4.81 (br s, 2H), 6.21 (d, J = 2 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (d, J = 2 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (t,

$\lambda = 9$  Hz, 2H), 7.06-7.15 (m, 2H), 7.29 d,  $\lambda = 8$  Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d,  $\lambda = 8$  Hz, 2H),

## BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION

5

### Rat Carrageenan Foot Pad Edema Test

The carrageenan foot edema test was performed with materials, reagents and procedures essentially as described by Winter, et al. (*Proc. Soc. Exp. Biol. Med.*, 111, 544 (1962)). Male Sprague-Dawley rats were selected in each group so that the average body weight was as close as possible. Rats were fasted with free access to water for over sixteen hours prior to the test. The rats were dosed orally (1 mL) with compounds suspended in vehicle containing 0.5% methylcellulose and .025% surfactant, or with vehicle alone. One hour later a subplantar injection of 0.1 mL of 1% solution of carrageenan/sterile 0.9% saline was administered and the volume of the injected foot was measured with a displacement plethysmometer connected to a pressure transducer with a digital indicator. Three hours after the injection of the carrageenan, the volume of the foot was again measured. The average foot swelling in a group of drug-treated animals was compared with that of a group of placebo-treated animals and the percentage inhibition of edema was determined (Otterness and Bliven, Laboratory Models for Testing NSAIDs, in Non-steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs, (J. Lombardino, ed. 1985)). Results are shown in Table I.

### Rat Carrageenan-induced Analgesia Test

The rat carrageenan analgesia test was performed with materials, reagents and procedures essentially as described by Hargreaves, et al. (*Pain*, 32, 77 (1988)). Male Sprague-Dawley rats were treated as

previously described for the Carrageenan Foot Pad Edema test. Three hours after the injection of the carrageenan, the rats were placed in a special plexiglass container with a transparent floor having a high intensity lamp as a radiant heat source, positionable under the floor. After an initial twenty minute period, thermal stimulation was begun on either the injected foot or on the contralateral uninjected foot. A photoelectric cell turned off the lamp and timer when light was interrupted by paw withdrawal. The time until the rat withdraws its foot was then measured. The withdrawal latency in seconds was determined for the control and drug-treated groups, and percent inhibition of the hyperalgesic foot withdrawal determined. Results are shown in Table I.

TABLE I.

	RAT PAW EDEMA	ANALGESIA
	% Inhibition	% Inhibition
	@ 30mg/kg body weight	@ 10mg/kg body weight
Example		
1	49	94

#### Evaluation of COX I and COX II activity in vitro

The compounds of this invention exhibited inhibition in vitro of COX II. The COX II inhibition activity of the compounds of this invention illustrated in the Examples was determined by the following methods.

##### a. Preparation of recombinant COX baculoviruses

A 2.0 kb fragment containing the coding region of either human or murine COX-I or human or murine COX-

II was cloned into a BamHI site of the baculovirus transfer vector pVL1393 (Invitrogen) to generate the baculovirus transfer vectors for COX-I and COX-II in a manner similar to the method of D.R. O'Reilly et al (Baculovirus Expression Vectors: A Laboratory Manual (1992)). Recombinant baculoviruses were isolated by transfecting 4 µg of baculovirus transfer vector DNA into SF9 insect cells (2x10<sup>8</sup>) along with 200 ng of linearized baculovirus plasmid DNA by the calcium phosphate method. See M.D. Summers and G.E. Smith, A Manual of Methods for Baculovirus Vectors and Insect Cell Culture Procedures. Texas Agric. Exp. Station Bull. 1555 (1987). Recombinant viruses were purified by three rounds of plaque purification and high titer (10<sup>7</sup> - 10<sup>8</sup> pfu/ml) stocks of virus were prepared. For large scale production, SF9 insect cells were infected in 10 liter fermentors (0.5 x 10<sup>6</sup>/ml) with the recombinant baculovirus stock such that the multiplicity of infection was 0.1. After 72 hours the cells were centrifuged and the cell pellet homogenized in Tris/Sucrose (50 mM: 25%, pH 8.0) containing 1% 3-[(3-cholamidopropyl)dimethylammonio]-1-propanesulfonate (CHAPS). The homogenate was centrifuged at 10,000xG for 30 minutes, and the resultant supernatant was stored at -80°C before being assayed for COX activity.

b. Assay for COX I and COX II activity:

COX activity was assayed as PGE<sub>2</sub> formed/µg protein/time using an ELISA to detect the prostaglandin released. CHAPS-solubilized insect cell membranes containing the appropriate COX enzyme were incubated in a potassium phosphate buffer (50 mM, pH 8.0) containing epinephrine, phenol, and heme with the addition of arachidonic acid (10 µM). Compounds were pre-incubated with the enzyme for 10-20 minutes prior to the addition of arachidonic acid. Any reaction between the

arachidonic acid and the enzyme was stopped after ten minutes at 37°C/room temperature by transferring 40 µl of reaction mix into 160 µl ELISA buffer and 25 µM indomethacin. The PGE<sub>2</sub> formed was measured by standard  
5 ELISA technology (Cayman Chemical). Results are shown in Table II.

TABLE II.

10	COX I	COX II
	ID <sub>50</sub> µM	ID <sub>50</sub> µM
Example		
1	1.3	<.1
15		

Also embraced within this invention is a class of pharmaceutical compositions comprising one or more compounds of Formula I in association with one or more  
20 non-toxic, pharmaceutically-acceptable carriers and/or diluents and/or adjuvants (collectively referred to herein as "carrier" materials) and, if desired, other active ingredients. The compounds of the present invention may be administered by any suitable route,  
25 preferably in the form of a pharmaceutical composition adapted to such a route, and in a dose effective for the treatment intended. The compounds and composition may, for example, be administered intravascularly, intraperitoneally, subcutaneously, intramuscularly or  
30 topically.

For oral administration, the pharmaceutical composition may be in the form of, for example, a tablet, capsule, suspension or liquid. The pharma-  
35 ceutical composition is preferably made in the form of a dosage unit containing a particular amount of the active ingredient. Examples of such dosage units are tablets or

capsules. The active ingredient may also be administered by injection as a composition wherein, for example, saline, dextrose or water may be used as a suitable carrier.

5

The amount of therapeutically active compound that is administered and the dosage regimen for treating a disease condition with the compounds and/or compositions of this invention depends on a variety of factors, including the age, weight, sex and medical condition of the subject, the severity of the disease, the route and frequency of administration, and the particular compound employed, and thus may vary widely. The pharmaceutical compositions may contain active ingredient in the range of about 0.1 to 2000 mg, preferably in the range of about 0.5 to 500 mg and most preferably between about 1 and 100 mg. A daily dose of about 0.01 to 100 mg/kg body weight, preferably between about 0.1 and about 50 mg/kg body weight and most preferably between about 1 to 20 mg/kg body weight, may be appropriate. The daily dose can be administered in one to four doses per day.

For therapeutic purposes, the compounds of this invention are ordinarily combined with one or more adjuvants appropriate to the indicated route of administration. If administered per os, the compounds may be admixed with lactose, sucrose, starch powder, cellulose esters of alkanolic acids, cellulose alkyl esters, talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate, magnesium oxide, sodium and calcium salts of phosphoric and sulfuric acids, gelatin, acacia gum, sodium alginate, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and/or polyvinyl alcohol, and then tableted or encapsulated for convenient administration. Such capsules or tablets may contain a controlled-release formulation as may be provided in a dispersion of active compound in hydroxy-

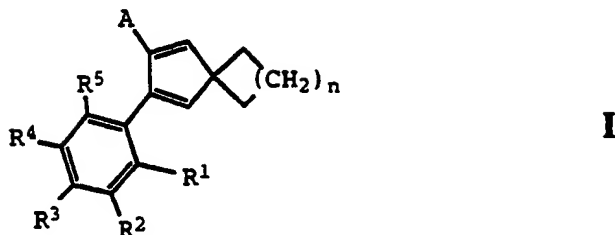


propylmethyl cellulose. Formulations for parenteral administration may be in the form of aqueous or non-aqueous isotonic sterile injection solutions or suspensions. These solutions and suspensions may be prepared from sterile powders or granules having one or more of the carriers or diluents mentioned for use in the formulations for oral administration. The compounds may be dissolved in water, polyethylene glycol, propylene glycol, ethanol, corn oil, cottonseed oil, peanut oil, sesame oil, benzyl alcohol, sodium chloride, and/or various buffers. Other adjuvants and modes of administration are well and widely known in the pharmaceutical art.

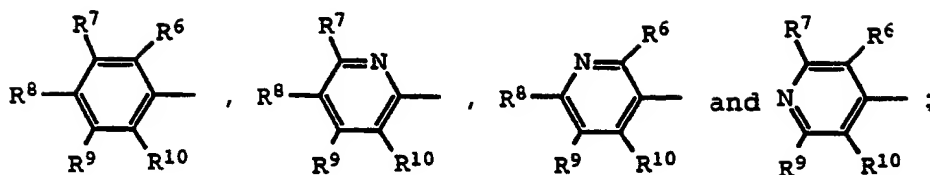
Although this invention has been described with respect to specific embodiments, the details of these embodiments are not to be construed as limitations.

What is claimed is:

1. A compound of Formula I



wherein A is selected from



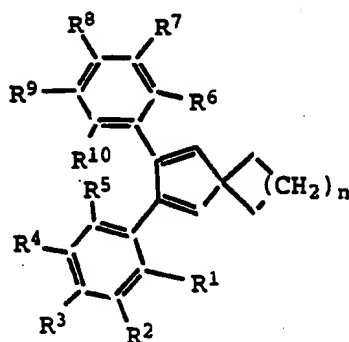
15 wherein each of  $R^1$  through  $R^{10}$  is independently selected from hydrido, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; and wherein  $n$  is a number selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

20 2. Compound of Claim 1 wherein each of  $R^1$  through  $R^{10}$  is independently selected from hydrido, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkylthio, cyano, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower haloalkylsulfonyl and  
25 sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

30 3. Compound of Claim 2 wherein each of  $R^1$  through  $R^{10}$  is independently selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl,

isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hydroxyl, mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, cyano, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl, methylsulfonyl, fluoromethylsulfonyl, difluoromethylsulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

4. A compound of Formula II



II

wherein each of  $R^1$  through  $R^{10}$  is independently selected from hydrido, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto, alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; and wherein  $n$  is a number selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

5. Compound of Claim 4 wherein  $n$  is a number selected from 0, 1 and 2; wherein each of  $R^1$  through  $R^{10}$  is independently selected from hydrido, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkylthio, cyano, lower haloalkyl, lower

haloalkoxy, lower alkoxy, hydroxyl, mercapto, lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

5

6. Compound of Claim 5 wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hydroxyl, mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, cyano, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl, methylsulfonyl, fluoromethylsulfonyl, difluoromethylsulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

7. Compound of Claim 6 selected from compounds, and their pharmaceutically-acceptable salts, of the group consisting of

5-phenyl-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-methylphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-methylthiophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]

- spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-cyanophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
5 phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
4-(6-phenylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl)  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
10 4-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
15 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
20 4-[6-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-  
5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
6-phenyl-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-  
5,7-diene;  
6-(4-fluorophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
25 spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-chlorophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-methylphenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
30 6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-methylthiophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-cyanophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
35 spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;  
6-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-diene;

- 4-(7-phenylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl)  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 4-[7-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
10 benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 15 4-[7-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-  
6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 2-phenyl-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-  
1,3-diene;
- 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
20 spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;
- 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;
- 2-(4-methylphenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;
- 25 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;
- 2-(4-methylthiophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;
- 2-(4-cyanophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
30 spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;
- 2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-diene;
- 4-(3-phenylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl)  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 35 4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]

- benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
5 benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-methylthiophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-cyanophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
10 4-[3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-  
2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
5-(3-methyl-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-  
15 (methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3-methyl-4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-  
(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-chlorophenyl)-6-[4-  
(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
20 5-(3-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-  
(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-  
(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-  
25 (methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-  
(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-methoxy-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl)-6-[4-  
(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
30 5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(4-chloro-3-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)  
35 phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;  
5-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;

- 5-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;
- 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
10 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-methoxy-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl)  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 15 4-[6-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-methyl-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
20 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-methoxy-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl)  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 25 4-[6-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(4-chloro-3-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[6-(3,4-difluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
30 4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide; and
- 4-[6-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-  
4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide.

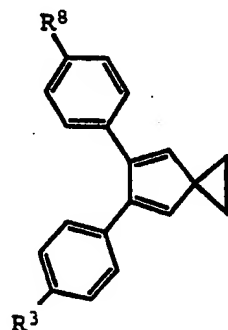
8. Compound of Claim 7 which is 5-(4-  
35 fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene, or a pharmaceutically-  
acceptable salt thereof.



9. Compound of Claim 7 which is 4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl] benzenesulfonamide, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

5

10. A compound of Formula III

**III**

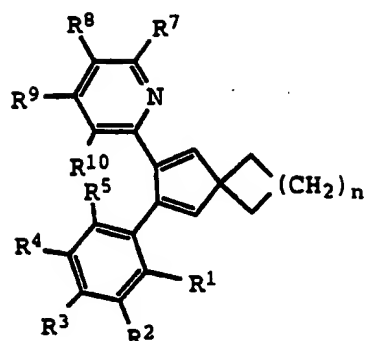
10 wherein R<sup>3</sup> is selected from alkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; and

wherein R<sup>8</sup> is selected from hydrido, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl and mercapto; or a  
15 pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

11. Compound of Claim 10 wherein R<sup>3</sup> is methylsulfonyl or sulfamyl; and wherein R<sup>8</sup> is selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl,  
20 ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hydroxyl, mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, cyano, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl,  
25 heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl and ethoxymethyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

30

## 12. A compound of Formula IV



IV

5                    wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1, 2  
and 3; and

                  wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> through  
R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo,  
alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy,  
10   hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto,  
alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a  
pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

                  13. Compound of Claim 12 wherein n is a  
15   number selected from 0, 1 and 2; wherein each of R<sup>1</sup>  
through R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected  
from hydrido, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower  
alkylthio, cyano, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy,  
lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl,  
20   mercapto, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower haloalkylsulfonyl  
and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt  
thereof.

                  14. Compound of Claim 13 wherein each of R<sup>1</sup>  
25   through R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected  
from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl,  
ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl,  
isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hydroxyl,  
mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, cyano, fluoromethyl,  
30   difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl,  
dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl,

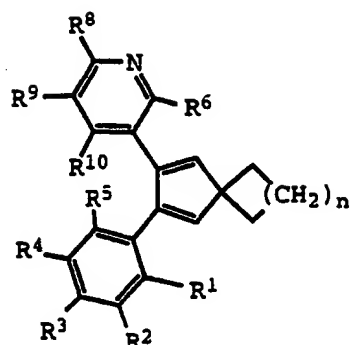
heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl,  
dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl,  
dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy,  
hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl,  
5 methylsulfonyl, fluoromethylsulfonyl,  
difluoromethylsulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl and  
sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt  
thereof.

- 10 15. Compound of Claim 14 selected from  
compounds, and their pharmaceutically-acceptable salts,  
of the group consisting of
- 2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
15 dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
5-fluoro-2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
5-chloro-2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
20 5-methyl-2-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
4-[6-(pyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(5-fluoropyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
25 yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(5-chloropyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(5-methylpyridin-2-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
30 2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-  
6-yl]pyridine;  
5-fluoro-2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-  
5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
5-chloro-2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-  
35 5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
5-methyl-2-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-  
5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;

- 4-[7-(pyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(5-fluoropyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 4-[7-(5-chloropyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(5-methylpyridin-2-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;
- 10 5-fluoro-2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;
- 5-chloro-2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;
- 15 5-methyl-2-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;
- 4-[3-(pyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(5-fluoropyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 20 4-[3-(5-chloropyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(5-methylpyridin-2-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 25 2-(6-phenylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl)-5-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 30 2-[6-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-(6-phenylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl)-5-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 35 2-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-

- pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-[6-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-5-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-(7-phenylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl)-5-
- 5 (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[7-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-
- (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[7-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-
- (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 10 2-[7-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-
- (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-(7-phenylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl)-5-
- pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-[7-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-
- 15 pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-[7-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-
- pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-[7-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-5-
- pyridinesulfonamide;
- 20 2-(3-phenylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl)-5-
- (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-
- (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-
- 25 (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-[3-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-
- (methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 2-(3-phenylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl)-5-
- pyridinesulfonamide;
- 30 2-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-
- pyridinesulfonamide;
- 2-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-
- pyridinesulfonamide; and
- 2-[3-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-5-
- 35 pyridinesulfonamide.

16. A compound of Formula V



V

5                    wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1, 2  
and 3; and

                  wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> through  
R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from hydrido, halo,  
alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy,  
10   hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto,  
alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a  
pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

15                    17. Compound of Claim 16 wherein n is a  
number selected from 0, 1 and 2; wherein each of R<sup>1</sup>  
through R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected  
from hydrido, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower  
alkylthio, cyano, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy,  
lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl,  
20   mercapto, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower haloalkylsulfonyl  
and sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt  
thereof.

25                    18. Compound of Claim 17 wherein each of R<sup>1</sup>  
through R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> through R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected  
from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl,  
ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl,  
isobutyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hydroxyl,  
mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, cyano,  
30   trifluoromethoxy, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl,

- trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl,  
trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl,  
difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl,  
difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl,  
5 dichloropropyl, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl,  
ethoxymethyl, methylsulfonyl, fluoromethylsulfonyl,  
difluoromethylsulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl and  
sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt  
thereof.

10

19. Compound of Claim 18 selected from  
compounds, and their pharmaceutically-acceptable salts,  
of the group consisting of

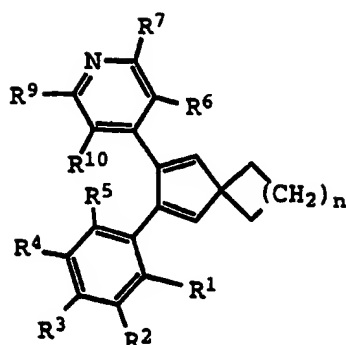
- 15 5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
2-fluoro-5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
2-chloro-5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro  
20 [2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
2-methyl-5-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]  
spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
4-[6-(pyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
25 4-[6-(2-fluoropyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2-chloropyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[6-(2-methylpyridin-5-yl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-  
30 yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-  
6-yl]pyridine;  
2-fluoro-5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-  
5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
35 2-chloro-5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-  
5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;  
2-methyl-5-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-  
5,7-dien-6-yl]pyridine;

- 4-[7-(pyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(2-fluoropyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 4-[7-(2-chloropyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[7-(2-methylpyridin-5-yl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;
- 10 2-fluoro-5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;
- 2-chloro-5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;
- 15 2-methyl-5-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]pyridine;
- 4-[3-(pyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(2-fluoropyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 20 4-[3-(2-chloropyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-[3-(2-methylpyridin-5-yl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 25 5-(6-phenylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 30 5-[6-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-(6-phenylspiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl)-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 35 5-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-



- pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[6-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-(7-phenylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[7-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[7-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 10 5-[7-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-(7-phenylspiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl)-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[7-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 15 5-[7-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[7-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 20 5-(3-phenylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 25 5-[3-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-(methylsulfonyl)pyridine;
- 5-(3-phenylspiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl)-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 30 5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide;
- 5-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide; and
- 5-[3-(4-methylphenyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]-2-pyridinesulfonamide.
- 35

## 20. A compound of Formula VI



VI

5                    wherein n is a number selected from 0, 1, 2  
and 3; and

                  wherein each of R<sup>1</sup> through R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> is  
independently selected from hydrido, halo, alkyl,  
alkoxy, alkylthio, cyano, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy,  
10   hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyl, mercapto,  
alkylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl and sulfamyl; or a  
pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

                  21. Compound of Claim 20 wherein n is a  
15   number selected from 0, 1 and 2; wherein each of R<sup>1</sup>  
through R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from  
hydrido, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkylthio, cyano,  
hydroxyl, mercapto, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy,  
lower alkoxy, lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxyalkyl,  
20   lower alkylsulfonyl, lower haloalkylsulfonyl and  
sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt  
thereof.

                  22. Compound of Claim 21 wherein each of R<sup>1</sup>  
25   through R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> is independently selected from  
hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl, ethyl, n-  
propyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl, isobutyl,  
methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, methylthio,  
ethylthio, cyano, hydroxyl, mercapto, trifluoromethoxy,  
30   fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl,

chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl,  
pentafluoroethyl, hexafluoropropyl,  
difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl,  
difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl,  
5 dichloropropyl, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl,  
ethoxymethyl, methylsulfonyl, fluoromethylsulfonyl,  
difluoromethylsulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl and  
sulfamyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt  
thereof.

10

23. Compound of Claim 22 selected from  
compounds, and their pharmaceutically-acceptable salts,  
of the group consisting of

- 15 4-[6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-  
dien-5-yl]pyridine;  
4-[6-(4-pyridinyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-  
20 6-yl]pyridine;  
4-[7-(4-pyridinyl)spiro[3.4]octa-5,7-dien-6-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-  
2-yl]pyridine; and  
25 4-[3-(4-pyridinyl)spiro[4.4]nona-1,3-dien-2-yl]  
benzenesulfonamide.

24. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a  
therapeutically effective amount of a compound, said  
30 compound selected from a family of compounds of Claim  
4; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

25. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a  
therapeutically effective amount of a compound, said  
35 compound selected from a family of compounds of Claim  
5; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

26. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound, said compound selected from a family of compounds of Claim 6; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

5

27. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound, said compound selected from a family of compounds of Claim 7; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

10

28. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound, said compound selected from a compound of Claim 8; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

15

29. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound, said compound selected from a compound of Claim 9; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

20

30. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder in a subject, said method comprising administering to the subject having such inflammation or inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 4; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

25

31. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder in a subject, said method comprising administering to the subject having such inflammation or inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 5; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

30

32. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder in a subject, said method comprising administering to the subject having

35

such inflammation or inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 6; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

5                   33. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder in a subject, said method comprising administering to the subject having such inflammation or inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of  
10 Claim 7; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

                  34. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder in a subject, said method comprising administering to the subject having  
15 such inflammation or inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 8; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

                  35. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder in a subject, said method comprising administering to the subject having such inflammation or inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of  
20 Claim 9; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.  
25

                  36. The method of Claim 30 for use in treatment of inflammation.

                  37. The method of Claim 30 for use in  
30 treatment of an inflammation-associated disorder.

                  38. The method of Claim 37 wherein the inflammation-associated disorder is arthritis.

                  39. The method of Claim 37 wherein the inflammation-associated disorder is pain.  
35

                  40. The method of Claim 37 wherein the inflammation-associated disorder is fever.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter. nal Application No  
PCT/US 95/04789

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 C07C317/14 C07C311/16 C07D213/32 C07C317/22 C07C323/65  
C07C317/44 C07C311/29 C07C323/67 C07D213/34 C07D213/61  
C07D213/71 A61K31/10 A61K31/18 A61K31/44

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 C07C C07D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JOURNAL OF THE CHEMICAL SOCIETY, CHEMICAL COMMUNICATIONS, no. 16, 19 August 1970 LETCHWORTH, GB, pages 1013-1014, N.K. HAMER, ET AL.: 'Stereochemistry of the photoisomerisation of 4-methylene-bicyclo[3.1.0]hex-2-enes to spiro[2.4]-hepta-4,6-dienes' cited in the application see compound 4H --- -/--	1

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 July 1995

Date of mailing of the international search report

21. 07. 95

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+ 31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax (+ 31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

English, R

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 95/04789

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>GENERAL PHARMACOLOGY, vol. 24, no. 1, January 1993 OXFORD, GB, pages 105-110, N. FUTAKI, ET AL.: 'NS-398, a novel non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug with potent analgesic and antipyretic effects, which causes minimal stomach lesions' see the whole document</p> <p>---</p>	1,24,30
A	<p>JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY, vol. 268, no. 9, 25 March 1993 BALTIMORE, MD, US, pages 6610-6614, E.A. MEADE, ET AL.: 'Differential inhibition of prostoglandin endoperoxide synthetase (cyclooxygenase) isoenzymes by aspirin and other non-steroidal anti- inflammatory drugs' see the whole document</p> <p>---</p>	1,24,30
P,A	<p>US-A-5 393 790 (D.B. REITZ, ET AL.) 28 February 1995</p> <p>-----</p>	1,24,30

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 95/04789

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US-A-5393790	28-02-95	NONE	